CRIME - GENERAL
1987

JANUARY — SEPT. — DEC.
Secrets of secrecy

As 1986 drew to an end, written questions put by the FM to Commissioner for Inland Revenue Clive Kingon remained unanswered. The questions covered what has come to be perceived as a new approach by Inland Revenue to tax evasion.

The main solid evidence is Revenue's resort to the criminal courts after it back-taxed and fined a former West Rand mayor — the first case of its kind in SA. Further evidence comes from private sector tax consultants who report an increase in the number of cases investigated by Revenue.

No general trend is discernible in reasons for investigation: it may be on profits made via share participation schemes; taxpayers hit by Revenue's annual random selection; or a new reason found by the expertise of Revenue's new 100 or so accountants and lawyers.

But there are increasing reports of automatic investigations of taxpayers who overpay R1 000 or more on PAYE or provisional tax payments. Just one unwanted effect of this for the taxpayer would be the extended wait for a refund.

The main question — whether Revenue has taken a conscious decision to implement a new approach to suspected tax evasion — remains unanswered.

Surrounding clues to not help the taxpayers' dilemma.

In December, new CE: Taxation in the Department of Finance, Peter Wronsley, told the FM that Revenue's modus operandi is fine for the times. Indeed, he sees Revenue's secrecy practices as justified to thwart those bent on tax evasion.
Unitra will branch out

Dispatch Reporter

UMGETA — The University of Transkei is to establish a school of engineering and surveying at its branch in Butterworth. This was announced yesterday by the assistant registrar of the Butterworth branch of Unitra, Mr A.J. Bomvu.

The first students are expected to register on January 20.

The fee is R600 and the number of students will be limited to 50.

Mr Bomvu said preference would be given to students who were sponsored by their employers.

The school will initially offer national diplomas in civil engineering and surveying.

The curriculum for each of the diplomas will extend three and a half academic years and students will write the same final-year examinations as technikons in South Africa.

Mr Bomvu said bursaries would, to a limited extent, be offered by certain institutions through the university.

Students will attend classes for theory and practical training will be under the instruction of a qualified engineer.

The branch would not provide accommodation for students but would help them to find it, he added.
R300m African Bank docket

By Udo Rypstra

POLICE have completed their investigations into alleged foreign-currency dealings by at least five African Bank officials.

The docket is being studied by the Attorney-General of the Witwatersrand, who says a decision on prosecution can be made only in a month or two.

Klaus von Lieres und Wilkau, SC, says the allegations concern transactions involving about R300-million and a "profit" of about R100-million.

If anyone is charged, the trial will be the biggest-ever in SA relating to fraud and foreign-currency charges.

Suspended

Nine officials were suspended in May last year after African Bank announced a profit of R6-million for the half-year to March. The previous year's profit was only R120,000.

It is believed that Reserve Bank officials were aware that something was amiss, but did little about it.

Investigations led by Brigadier Nollie Hulme, of police headquarters in Pretoria, started in May. The bulky docket was handed to Mr von Lieres's office late last year.
EX-police spy to tackle PRP

By David Jackson

Schwarz – the public protection to give better

Crime goes
Crime Wave Intensifies

Insurers Get Tougher

By Udo Ryssdael

Shale's Day

Companies are the least

insurers to comment on

the recent increase in

crime. Most companies

are responding by

increasing premium rates

and tightening underwriting

criteria. Some companies

are also considering

increasing deductibles.

Business Cuts

In response to the rising

crime rates, companies are

tightening underwriting

criteria and increasing

premium rates. Some

companies are also

considering increasing

deductibles.

Insurable Claims

The situation is getting worse.

The increase in crime is

leading to an increase in

claims. Insurers are

responding by increasing

premium rates and

tightening underwriting

criteria.

Insurers

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by

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underwriting

criteria.

Some

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are also

considering increasing

deductibles.

Securities

equipment

deals

10%

Excess

Insurance

are

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by

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Some

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Securities

equipment

deals

10%

Excess

Insurance
Police patrols praised for drop in CBD crime

Dispatch Reporter
EAST: LONDON — The crime rate in the central business district here has been cut dramatically over the last festive season because of police patrols.

This was revealed yesterday by the chairman of the security committee of the Central Business District Association, Mr. Robyn Hobbs.

Figures he released, which were confirmed by the police, showed that motor car break-ins totalled 256 in 1985 while the 1986 figure was down to 93. There had been 10 handbag snatchings in 1985 compared to five in 1986.

"This is undoubtedly due to the excellent cooperation of the police to whom we are very grateful," Mr. Hobbs said. "They agreed to our request to put uniformed patrols into the CBD.

"These started early in December with obvious results. It is sincerely hoped that the police are able to continue their pressure in the area because the aim of the association is to make the CBD a safer and more pleasant place to shop."

He said businessmen had suggested actions to be taken in the CBD and that a plan was being discussed whereby the businessmen would put sirens outside their shops. These sirens could be triggered in an emergency to give instant warning to the public in the vicinity of the problem.

The CBD Association, together with the East London Chamber of Commerce and the Sakekamer, has also brought out a detailed pamphlet dealing with bomb incidents and guidelines for businessmen in the interests of the welfare of their customers.

The pamphlet gives general guidelines for a physical security plan, actual bomb incident methods of search related to bomb incidents, bomb threats, suspect articles and the action to be taken after a bomb explosion.
US calls for a report on Natal massacre

WASHINGTON — The massacre of 12 blacks outside Durban has horrified the United States. The State Department has told the US Embassy in Pretoria to look into reports that gunmen sprayed a house in the township of Kwamakhuta with bullets, then went to a nearby hut and massacred sleeping children.

The South African Government's Bureau for Information said Soviet-made AK-47 assault rifles were used in the attack, suggesting the ANC was responsible.

If that was the case, the attack would be a significant embarrassment to Washington, where US Secretary of State George Shultz is to hold talks next week with the ANC leader, Mr Oliver Tambo.

It is reported from Durban that Mr Victor Ntuli, thought to be the target of the attack, has been in hiding for a month and thus escaped the attack.

He is a member of the UDF-affiliated Kwamakhuta Youth League.

Kwamakhuta has been a centre of continued political violence between members of the UDF and Inkatha.

Police have not yet established a motive for the killings.

Police have not ruled out the possibility that terrorists were responsible for the murders.

In Johannesburg, officials of the UDF have accused Inkatha of staging the attack in revenge for recent killings of Inkatha followers.

The Chief Minister of KwaZulu, and President of Inkatha, Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi, said last night he was shocked by the dimensions which violence between the ANC-UDF alliance and Inkatha was assuming.

He said this on the assumption that the Kwamakhuta tragedy was probably a continuation of the internecine clashes that have been going on for some time in the township.

"I cannot see it being resolved short of the president of the external mission of the ANC, Mr Oliver Tambo, calling off the vendetta which his organisation and the UDF are waging against me and Inkatha."
Johannesburg. — A University of Cape Town professor and two other men are to appear in the Pretoria Magistrate’s Court today on charges of fraud.

The charge is allegedly linked to classified research done 18 years ago.

The men are Professor Geoffrey Brundritt, 46, a senior lecturer in applied mathematics at UCT, Mr Raymond Vice, 61, of the CSIR’s National Institute of Telecommunications Research, and Mr Francis John Hewitt, 67. Mr Hewitt, now-retired, is a former CSIR employee.

The charges relate to research done in 1968 and 1969 by Dr Jan Lochner at the University of Port Elizabeth. Dr Lochner is a former director of the National Institute for Defence, now Armscor.

The research involved submarines and electromagnetic waves.
By JOHN VAN DER LINDEN

ESCALATING car costs and South Africa’s fast development into a “one man, one car” state has resulted in car theft becoming one of this country’s most lucrative crimes.

Insurance companies claim losses due to annual theft of insured cars alone has reached the R120 million mark and the figure for uninsured cars, they felt, was six times that sum.

At a press conference in Cape Town last week, CID chief Lieutenant-General Stan Schutte said that 85,000 vehicles valued at R66 million were stolen in the Republic last year and that police had recovered more than half of them.

Recent investigations by Botswana police in close co-operation with their South African counterparts have resulted in the recovery of cars and motorcycles stolen in South Africa with a combined value of R1.26 million.

A senior Transvaal police officer yesterday confirmed that there were at least 12 BMWs among 20 vehicles recovered in Soweto and that several of 40 stolen motorcycles recovered had already been packed for shipment to neighbouring states by their new owners who had bought them at bargain prices.

Although 12 people had been arrested, police were aware that stopping the lucrative racket would take a country-wide crackdown.

One of the plans mooted is the formation of a motor theft unit at Springbok in Namakaland. Here a brand-new squad, still to be trained by the various motor-theft units around the country, would man a 24-hour road-block system covering roads leading to Namibia.

In Cape Town, where an average of 12 cars are stolen each day, it has been found that an increasing number of stolen bakkies and off-road vehicles are finding their way to Namibia and the West Coast.

Man ‘shot at principal’

PRETORIA. — A black man threatened the principal of Ngungungane Secondary School in Soweto on Tuesday and “fired several wild shots in his direction, seriously wounding a bystander”, the Bureau for Information said yesterday.

The police said no arrests had been made and police investigations were continuing.

“Other unrest-related incidents reported” on Tuesday comprised a few petrol-bomb attacks on private homes, causing considerable damage. No injuries or arrests were reported, the police said.

Canada ‘may sever SA diplomatic ties’

DHAKA. — Canada may break off diplomatic ties with South Africa if Pretoria persists with apartheid, the Canadian Foreign Minister, Mr. Joe Clark, said yesterday.

“We are very depressed by the Southern African situation and our government may sever diplomatic relations, unless Pretoria changes its policy,” he told a news conference.

“But before giving up hope, let’s wait and see for some more time,” he said.

Mr Clark said: “There has been virtually no change in South African policies since a Commonwealth mini-summit in London last August imposed some sanctions against it.”

At the London summit, leaders of Australia, the Bahamas, Canada, India, Zambia and Zimbabwe agreed on sanction against South Africa.

Mr Clark said that he had received a letter from Ottawa saying that Ottawa had already started providing support to the front line African states.

Mr Clark arrives in India today, ending a five-day visit to Bangladesh. He said Ottawa would continue to give “mixed economic” development assistance to Bangladesh, which said it has a satisfactory record of Canadian utilization.

Assault on boys: Man, 19, in court

Court Reporter

A MAN appearing in connection with the rape of four young boys in the hills above Krommiesje at the Krommiesje Town outside the city of Krugersdorp if he...
Insurers face R160-m bill as vehicle thefts leap 33 pc

JOHANNESBURG. - An explosion in motor vehicle thefts last year has left insurers reeling. They have been battered by an estimated bill of more than R160-million, after a leap in reports of stolen insured vehicles of 33 percent compared with 1983.

According to police records, of an average of 166 vehicles stolen daily in South Africa, about 40, or 25 percent, are insured.

Police recoveries are fairly successful. However, they fell from 24 percent of insured vehicles reported stolen in 1981-82 to 22 percent in 1984 and only 16 percent last year.

Under a scheme introduced in 1981 by the SA Insurance Association (SAIA), member insurers report thefts and the number of unidentified recovered vehicles.

Chief executive of SAIA, Mr Rodney Schneeberger, says: "Theft has been the big disappointment of 1986."

A report extrapolating the 12,727 vehicles stolen in the 10 months to October last year, says thefts of insured vehicles could top 18,270 for the year as a whole — or more than 40 a day.

By comparison, 10,991 were stolen in 1983 and 9,933 in 1984.

On average, insurers pay out more than R10,000 per claim for stolen vehicles.

Mr Schneeberger attributes the explosion in thefts to:
- The economic recession and consequent high unemployment;
- Lack of police controls, particularly in the light of township unrest;
- More sophisticated criminal skills, planning and management; and
- The huge increase in the value of vehicles.

He adds, however: "We are optimistic about the situation, if for no other reason than that the unrest is abating. "We know this from our statistics of political riot insurance."

"So at least the police function should gradually be restored to combating conventional crime." Unfortunately the bad experience last year extended to crime classes of business generally "where experience has been horrendous".

Other areas of personal insurance have also been unprofitable, certainly "dissipating any benefit that has arisen from an improvement in commercial and industrial business", according to Mr Schneeberger.

He believes statistical coverage will improve when SAIA's project gets into full swing. Ultimately the idea is to provide each insurer with the "burning cost" — the premium he should charge to cover claims costs only.

To this burning cost an insurer will add commission, administration costs, and underwriting profit.

"Of course this would only be a guideline to price — it would not be compulsory for an insurer to charge that. But at least rates charged would be statistically defensible," he adds. Sapa.
Recovered
cars ‘can’t
be claimed’

By Craig Kotze,
Crime Reporter

Many owners of stolen BMWs, cheered by news of
the recovery by police of some of the expensive vehi-
cles, have had their hopes of reclaiming their cars
dashed by the resourcefulness of car thieves.

So successfully have the conventional identification
aids — registration numbers and other marks — been
obscured or even totally erased that in many cases
papers are no longer sufficient proof of ownership.

"Everything has been changed and there, does not
seem to be any way one can prove a car really
belongs to you," one frustrated BMW owner said.

He was one of many who telephoned The Star after
it was revealed that Western Transvaal detectives
had cracked three theft gangs and recovered vehicles
worth more than R600 000.

One man said he had visited the Oberholzer police
yesterday only to find there was no way he — or the
police — could find out soon whether any of the reco-
vered vehicles could have been his own.

"These cars will simply rot and the owners will get
nothing," he said angrily.

But Western Transvaal CID chief Colonel Floris
Mostert has appealed for patience, saying police
would eventually be able to identify the cars.

"We have received inquiries from all over from
people who want to know if we have their BMWs.
But they will have to be patient because we are
working on the positive identification of these vehi-
cles," Colonel Mostert said.

Police, working in conjunction with the BMW car
company, had the means to identify the cars, al-
though he declined to elaborate on the methods.

The recovery by his men of the vehicles has re-
evaled the lengths to which highly organised gangs
go to destroy all traces of original ownership.
One method is to buy a cheap second-hand BMW
and then to steal a more modern and expensive
model. The registration numbers of the old car are
then transferred to the stolen vehicle.
Estimated 64,000 cars stolen last year

Break-ins and vehicle thefts cost R600-m

By Magnus Heystek and Jaap Boekkooi

South African insurance companies paid out an estimated R600 million in vehicle theft and housebreaking claims last year.

Eighty percent of this amount was paid out on householders/all risks policies.

These figures were released by Santam Insurance when it launched a R1 million publicity campaign to make the public more safety conscious.

But they show only the tip of the iceberg. Not all vehicles are insured—and many are under-insured.

It is estimated that 64,000 vehicles were stolen in South Africa last year. At an average value of R10,000 each, it means criminals are costing the country R640 million.

Vehicle theft in South Africa has reached the highest rate in the Western World—more than four times higher than in Britain.

Six times more cars are stolen in South Africa per capita than in West Germany, five times as many as in Belgium, and twice as many as in Sweden.

These figures have been reached from statistics compiled by the Paris-based Federation Internationale d’Automobile and their South African equivalents.

The car theft industry reaps 2.13 percent of the national fleet of passenger-carrying vehicles each year, as against 0.8 percent in the United States.

The rate in Italy, notorious for its former high car theft rate, now stands at 0.5 percent.

The South African Police have launched several initiatives to get to the bottom of the highly-organised theft rings, but the “godfathers” have not been cracked yet.

Many of the stolen vehicles are taken out of the country.

Said Colonel Frans Malherbe, of John Vorster Square: “Our stolen cars are now found in just about every African country.”

Explaining Santam’s new publicity campaign, Mrs Marina Ackermann, head of the advertising and public relations division, said: “If our campaign achieves a reduction in claims of a mere 2 percent it would save Santam Insurance R3 million a year and the whole industry over R12 million.

For Santam, who paid out R150 million last year, the cost is regarded as money well spent in the interest of the public, as well as that of all insurance companies.”

The alternative is further increases in premiums, which have already risen significantly during the last two years.

As it is, insurance rates are expected to rise by at least another 20 percent to compensate for inflation.

Santam’s campaign will consist of advertisements on television and radio, and pamphlets and brochures underlying the need for the public to be safety conscious.
Campaign to boost security as theft claims hit R600-m

The Argus Correspondent
JOHANNESBURG.—Insurance companies paid out an estimated R600-million in vehicle theft and housebreaking claims last year.

Of this, 80 percent was paid out on household and all-risks policies.

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HIGHEST

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NOTORIOUS

The car-theft industry reaps 2,13 percent of the national fleet of passenger-carrying vehicles each year compared with 0,5 percent in the US.

The rate in Italy, once notorious for its car thefts, now stands at 0,5 percent.

Police have worked hard to crack organised car-theft rings but the “godfathers” have not been beaten yet.

Many of the stolen vehicles are taken out of the country.

A police spokesman said: “Our stolen cars are now found in just about every African country.”

Explaining Santam’s new campaign, Mrs Marina Ackermann, head of the advertising and public relations division, said: “If our campaign achieves a reduction in claims of a mere two percent it would save Santam Insurance R3-million a year and the whole industry over R12-million.

“Por Santam, who paid out R160-million last year, the cost is regarded as money well spent in the interest of the public, as well as that of all insurance companies.”

The alternative is higher premiums, which have already risen significantly in the past two years and are likely to rise again by 20 percent just to keep pace with inflation.

Santam’s campaign will include TV and radio advertisements plus pamphlets and brochures urging the public to be security-conscious.
90pc of stolen vehicles will never be returned

SA car owners are being plundered — and

The Star-Windhoek Edition 11 1997
Car insurance to rise with anti-theft and new excess demands

With the rising rate of car theft, car insurance costs are reaching dizzy heights and many people now paying R200 monthly to protect their cars from thieves may have to pay up to R300 this year.

As car theft reaches unprecedented levels, some insurance companies are insisting on anti-theft and alarm systems.

The highest-rated system tested by the Automobile Association (AA) at 120 points, protects the car with three-point engine isolation, its own rechargeable battery, markings on all windows, remote activator/deactivator, memory function, vibrators, and self-triggered alarm on bonnet and doors — all installed for $375.

70 PERCENT RISE

An AA survey showed that last year’s premium rises varied from 60 to 110 percent, and this year, according to the Security Association, car insurance companies may not only up premiums by 70 percent but may also demand that car owners pay an excess if no “approved” anti-theft devices are installed.

But some of the “approved” devices hardly protect cars. One, the automatic break lock in which many policemen have put their trust, can be easily disarmed and the brakes unlocked within 20 seconds.

Car theft in South Africa has become a R640 million annual racket, worth almost twice that of the country’s total diamond output, and one of the country’s most thriving “export industries”. Most cars are stolen in Johannesburg and are now found all over Africa and even in Australia and Europe. In the second part of a series JAAP BOEKKOOI looks at car insurance and anti-theft systems.

In many instances the overblown premiums plus compulsory installation of devices or excess payments will impoverish the long-harassed motorist by another R2 000 in 1987.

The excess conditions vary from demands for window engravings (Norwich Union and Santam) to demands for immobilising and alarm systems from new policy holders (Santam).

Mutual Federal and IGI will impose surcharges of R500 unless “approved” anti-theft devices are installed. SA Eagle says that in instances of car theft a surcharge of 10 percent of the claim will be made, unless a certificate is submitted showing that an anti-theft device was installed. This device must be automatically activated and individually fitted, work on two more vehicle systems, must use sleeved wiring and capable of being overridden when cars are serviced. All windows must also be engraved.

The insurance strictures on minibuses, favourites both in schools and as black taxis, are even more imposing. Santam will not insure such school buses unless all eight its windows are engraved and an anti-theft system locks brakes, fuel supply and electrical circuits.

Insurance interests now also exert pressures on motor manufacturers to build from scratch an anti-theft system at lower cost and to take other measures which are still under discussion.

A good example of pressure was that exerted on the makers of what became known as the German-made fast-getaway car — favourite among bank robbers who boasted it could be stolen in 10 seconds flat.

The company installed a computer-coded immobilising device that can now trap...
Trigger-happy trend not peculiar to SA says crime expert

By Carina le Grange and Dan Side

A leading criminologist does not wholly support the opinion of a Supreme Court judge that South Africa is a trigger-happy society.

Convicting a Hell's Angel of culpable homicide in the Rand Supreme Court on Tuesday, Mr Justice Irving Steyn said it was a pity guns were used so readily.

The man shot dead a teenage girl in the toilet of a Johannesburg nightclub.

Unisa criminologist Professor Beaty Naude said the increase in gun-related violence in South Africa followed a worldwide pattern.

On Tuesday, however, after the third family killing in South Africa within six days, a police spokesman issued a stern warning about the responsibilities of gun owners.

Last Thursday a Roodepoort man shot and killed his 18-year-old daughter and seriously wounded his wife before being killed himself.

On Tuesday, a man gunned down his 23-year-old wife outside a Cape retirement village before killing himself.

Also on Tuesday an 18-year-old woman wounded her 14-month-old daughter in Newlands, Johannesburg, before turning the gun on herself.

Professor Naude said statistics show an increase in violence all over the world.

"For instance, the increase in murder in the United States, Britain and South Africa last year was between eight and nine percent. The most commonly used weapons are guns and knives, and alcohol often plays a role.

Professor Naude does not condone the carrying of weapons in public because of the opportunities for violent crime.

It is a view shared by the South African Police.

Lieutenant Pierre Louw, media liaison officer for the Witwatersrand, said people who used guns must be prepared to explain their conduct in court.

"They must consider the consequences the illegal use of guns can bring on themselves and their families," he said.
Tightening border controls will be giant step in curbing vehicle thefts

Car theft in South Africa has become a R540-million annual racket, worth almost twice the country's total diamond output and one of the country's most thriving "export industries". In the fifth and final part of a series by JAAP BOEKKOOI investigators look at what can be done to halt the crisis and bring theft rates down.

John Vorster Square puts it.

The police have exerted successful pressure on the judiciary to increase sentences for car thief with substantial impact: the former car thief interviewed by The Star this week, who admitted he got cold feet after his gang mate and lookout was jailed for seven years.

Finally, the police have formed a special forgery squad to combat the easy changing of documents and re-registrations.

All these measures are expected to throw a good deal of salt into the current easy "laundrying" process that has made every parked car in South Africa fair game.

THE REMEDIES: Suggestions by security and insurance men to combat the car theft rate naturally flow from the weaknesses exposed in the system.

- Window etching is cheap, effective and could be made compulsory. The simple fact is that thieves don't like to change R3,000 worth of windows on a luxury car.
- Security shops — many policemen and insurers believe a system of specialised security shops where proper identification is recorded before duplicate keys, and such instruments as massive R200 bolt cutters, can be sold, would cut down car theft and crime in general. It works in Bloemfontein as a gentleman's agreement between police and locksmiths, but has fallen into disuse in other centres. More control of locksmiths is in the pipeline this year on request from the police.
- New news, based for example on the American Motor Vehicle Theft Act of 1994 — this requires manufacturers to mark up to 14 major components of high-theft model car, including engine, transmission, doors, bonnet, grille, chassis and bumpers. These markings have high "fright" value.
- Pressure groups could be organised by motorists and consumer bodies, as they were in the United States to form the Coalition to Halt Auto Theft, which represents car owners and lobbied Congress.
- Chassis plates, now traded routinely by some scrapyards, should be legally subject to return. They are the keys of "laundrying" stolen cars.
- More border checks could be made than the present routine.

February 17 1987

spot checks if Customs staff are expanded.

Personal anti-theft steps should include:
- Don't leave engine idling while hopping into a shop or opening large security gates. Many cars have been stolen by "spotters" in these few seconds.
- When a door lock is visibly tampered with, your car may be under death sentence. Call police for a stake-out. Change the lock.
- When a car is missing, walk round for a few blocks. Many cars are abandoned by joyriders for various reasons, such as an empty petrol tank.
- Follow police hints on locking up, parking in lit-up places, not leaving children and pets in parked cars and other precautional and self-evident anti-theft measures.

These are published in a special SAP brochure, "Another Car Vanishes", which is sponsored by the South African Insurance Association.
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**Color Count by Year**

- 1986: 2 Coloureds, 2 Indians, Total 4
- 1987: 3 Coloureds, 3 Indians, Total 6
- 1988: 6 Coloureds, 6 Indians, Total 12
- 1989: 1 Coloured, 1 Indian, Total 2
- 1990: 9 Coloureds, 9 Indians, Total 18
- 1991: 8 Coloureds, 8 Indians, Total 16
- 1992: 1 Coloured, 1 Indian, Total 2
- 1993: 2 Coloureds, 2 Indians, Total 4

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**Central Statistical Service**

The information is being collected for statistical purposes. In the Department of Finance, in an effort to be as accurate as possible, the following figures are provided:

- Coloureds: 2
- Indians: 2
- Total: 4

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**Total Color Count**

- 1986: 2 Coloureds, 2 Indians, Total 4
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- 1991: 8 Coloureds, 8 Indians, Total 16
- 1992: 1 Coloured, 1 Indian, Total 2
- 1993: 2 Coloureds, 2 Indians, Total 4

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**Note:**

The figures are subject to change based on future data collection.
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**Central Sustenance**

The information was obtained from the following sources in the manner indicated:

- The information is not readily available.

The Ministry of Justice

(1) (a) Broken and (b) Repaired

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(20) (a) Broken and (b) Repaired

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DEPARTMENT OF LAW AND ORDER

The Minister of Law and Order

Order in Council dated 23 February 1967

This Order is made in terms of section 9 of the South African Police Act, 1957 (Act No 106 of 1957).

1. Scope and Application

This Order applies to all persons engaged in the transportation of goods or passengers by road within South Africa, except for persons engaged in the transportation of goods or passengers by road within the territory of any other country.

2. Definitions

For the purposes of this Order:

(a) "transporter" means any person who transports goods or passengers by road in South Africa;

(b) "transport service" means the transportation of goods or passengers by road in South Africa;

(c) "transporter's licence" means a licence issued by the Minister of Law and Order to a transporter to transport goods or passengers by road in South Africa.

3. Conditions of Transport

(a) A transporter must ensure that all persons engaged in the transportation of goods or passengers by road in South Africa comply with the conditions of the Order.

(b) A transporter must ensure that all persons engaged in the transportation of goods or passengers by road in South Africa are aware of the conditions of the Order.

4. Penalties

(a) Any person who contravenes the conditions of the Order is liable to a fine of R1000 or to imprisonment for a period of 2 years, or both.

(b) Any transporter who fails to ensure that all persons engaged in the transportation of goods or passengers by road in South Africa comply with the conditions of the Order is liable to a fine of R2000 or to imprisonment for a period of 3 years, or both.

This Order comes into operation on the 12th day of February, 1967.
R871 million worth of cars stolen in ‘86

Political Staff

MOTOR CARS valued at nearly R872 million were stolen last year, according to the Minister of Law and Order, Mr Adriaan Vlok.

News of the huge booty snatched by car thieves comes amid rising expectations of increased insurance premiums and indications that anti-theft devices could become almost obligatory before theft cover is provided.

Apart from 58 118 cars being stolen, 131 033 cases of theft from cars were reported in the year ending June 30, 1986, Mr Vlok told Mr Harry Schwarz, the opposition finance spokesman, in reply to a question.

He said the stolen cars were valued at R871 785 000 and that 20 217 cars valued at R303 255 000 were recovered undamaged.

He said 6 000 cars were recovered damaged and 2 745 in a "cannibalized condition".

While the number of thefts had increased by 36% over the previous year, so had recoveries.

Thefts from cars were up because of the rising number of cars particularly in coloured and black areas where garages were not always available.

Another reason was that people "increasingly neglect to secure their vehicles against burglaries".

Mr Schwarz said "the problem will not be solved until the social conditions improve and in particular until unemployment is reduced".
Motor theft drains billions from the economy, says Vlok

Political Correspondent

PARLIAMENT - Motor vehicle theft has become a billion rand drain on the economy, according to statistics released by the Minister of Law and Order, Mr Adrian Vlok.

In answer to questions by Mr Harry Schwarz, PFP MP for Yeoville, Mr Vlok said yesterday that there were 58,119 vehicles reported stolen in 1985 – 40 percent more than in the previous year - and collectively worth R1,071 million.

Of these, 20,217 had been recovered in undamaged condition (collectively, worth R235 million), 6,669 had been recovered damaged and 2,625 were in a cannibalised condition.

"One-third of all vehicles reported stolen - 39,226 - remained missing."

The number of stolen vehicles represented an increase of 40 percent, but the number of cars recovered had also risen dramatically.

The total recovered undamaged represented 38 percent, damaged 11 percent and cannibalised 5 percent, compared with 3 percent, 1 percent and 8 percent in the previous year.

There had been 15,686 cases of thefts from cars.

The increase in crime could be attributed mainly to:

- the increase in motor vehicles, especially among coloured and black populations, while storage facilities were not always available;
- the fact that individuals increasingly neglected to secure vehicles against burglaries and left loose articles in vehicles;
- theft of vehicles and from vehicles had become an epidemic which had been allowed to get completely out of hand.

If one added the value of the vehicles stolen to the value of property stolen from cars, then quite clearly the total loss would be far more than R1,000 million, Mr Schwarz said.

RACKETS

"There are clearly major rackets of cars being cannibalised, 'made to disappear' into neighbouring territories or converted in some way in which they cannot be detected."

"Something drastic has to be done, particularly when one considers the low number of prosecutions in relation to the number of vehicles recovered."

The soaring rate of car theft was symptomatic of how crime had increased generally.

The crime rate had in recent years increased at twice the population rate.

Drastic action should entail:
- increasing the size of the police force dealing with crime;
- the public being made more conscious of crime defence;
- in the long term the underlying social causes be removed, specifically unemployment and deteriorating social conditions.
- the vast values involved had a ripple effect on the economy.

An immediate impact was restructuring insurance premiums.
50 burglaries a day during unrest

Ormande Pollok
Political Correspondent
CAPE TOWN—There were more than 50 burglaries a day in South Africa in the year up to July last year and widespread unrest was a strong contributing factor along with the recession.

Mr. Adriaan Vlok, Minister of Law and Order, said in a written reply to a question by the Opposition's chief finance spokesman, Mr. Harry Schwarz, that there had been 197,400 burglaries in the year—a decrease of 13% over the previous year.

There had been a notable improvement as unrest decreased.

Mr. Vlok said some burglaries had occurred in unrest areas and the situation had been exploited by criminal elements.

A further factor had been the recession and resulting unemployment.

What worsened the situation was that a large percentage of the SAP had to be withdrawn from white areas to curb unrest in black areas which was at its highest in that year, he said.

The result was that the unemployed loiterer had excellent opportunities to commit housebreakings.

Due to the notable decrease in general in unrest-related crimes, the SAP is again in a position to direct crime prevention actions. Crime prevention units operate country-wide on a full-time basis.

'These actions have already resulted in a notable improvement in the crime patterns of various police divisions, also with regard to burglaries.'

In reply to another question, by Mr. Tsam Van der Merwe, PFP, Green Point, Mr. Vlok said the SAP had investigated 140,612 offences and 623,999 infringements of the law up to the end of June 1986.
'Syndicate of gangs' is revealed

By JOHANN NEL
Crime Reporter

POLICE yesterday made a dramatic breakthrough in their investigation into the activities of a "syndicate of gangs", believed to be operating in the Kabega Park/Rowallan Park area.

Three youths were arrested and a large quantity of goods recovered, said East Cape police liaison officer, Major Eddie Everson.

He said the breakthrough came when Warrant Officer Willie van Meyre and Sergeant J J van Niekerk searched the premises of a cafe in Korsten at 10am yesterday.

On the premises they allegedly found two youths in possession of three large plastic bags.

The youths were arrested when the policemen found that the bags contained car radio/tape combinations and speakers, cassettes, clothing, cameras, adding machines, car and motorcycle batteries and fishing tackle.

Major Everson said the youths were handed over to Kabega Park detectives who, during further investigation, established that the youths allegedly belong to a "syndicate of gangs" which has been operating in the western suburbs for the past few months, specialising in theft from vehicles.

A third youth was arrested shortly afterwards.

Major Everson said police also established that the three youths were connected with nine incidents of theft in Kabega Park and Rowallan Park.

He said most of the property recovered had already been identified by the rightful owners, with the exception of two black fishing rods, a Penn model 60 reel, a two kilogram gas cylinder fitted with a Cadac lamp, a smaller Cadac gas cylinder and numerous sinkers.

Anyone who can identify any of these goods should contact the investigating officer, Lieutenant J van der Sandt, at 06-6727 during office hours.
Govt blamed for increased crime

GOVERNMENT'S failure to deal with high unemployment had led to increased crime, FPF MP for Yeoville Harry Schwarz said yesterday.

He said Law and Order Minister Adriaan Vlok figure's showed the crime rate had increased at twice the rate of the population growth. Vlok had said there were 42 murders, 211 serious assaults, 82 rapes and 18 cases of culpable homicides in Hillbrow from July 1985 to July 1996.

— Sapa.
540 burglaries a day — Vlok

Political Staff

There were more than 540 burglaries a day in South Africa in the year up to July last year and widespread unrest was a strong contributing factor along with the recession.

Mr Adrian Vlok, Minister of Law and Order, said in a written reply to a question by the Opposition's chief finance spokesman, Mr Harry Schwarz, that there had been 197 400 burglaries in the year — an increase of 15% over the previous year.

There had been a notable improvement as unrest decreased.

Mr Vlok said some burglaries had occurred in unrest areas where the situation had been exploited by criminal elements.

In reply to another question, from Mr Tian van der Merwe, FFNP Green Point, Mr Vlok said the SAP had investigated 1,405,612 offences and 623,999 infringements of the law up to the end of June 1986.
A million may carry guns

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY. — More than a million people are now licensed to possess firearms in South Africa, while over 30 firearms a day were reported lost or stolen. The Minister of Law and Order, Mr Adrian Vlok, said yesterday that 1,061,361 people were licensed to possess 2,492,633 firearms at the end of last year. Last year 230,221 applications to possess firearms were granted, the second highest ever. Mr Vlok was replying to a question tabled by Mr Tian van der Merwe (FFP Green Point).
Three arson attacks in a night

Weekly Mail, March 20, 1997
Octane fiddle probed

Mike Cohen

A major oil company is involved in a massive fraud investigation into the loss of possibly millions of rands over the past decade.

Apparently tanker drivers have been paid by garage owners to deposit regular petrol — 97 octane fuel — into the more expensive premium — 93 octane — pumps when making their deliveries.

The result has been complaints from motorists that their carburettors are corroding because of the petrol-alcohol mixture.

The Saturday Star is in possession of information which could lead to at least one prosecution. It has been told the fraud is widespread and involves many petrol stations. For legal reasons The Saturday Star is withholding the names of those involved.

The Automobile Association of South Africa (AA) has been asked to assist in the investigation and has sent staff members secretly to check the suspected garages. Should their investigations prove positive, the case will be handed over to the police.

According to a spokesman for the oil company, an internal inquiry has been launched. The company is also assembling information of its own with a view to possible prosecution.

Approached yesterday for reaction to claims made by a member of the public, company spokesman confirmed the investigation but said they were not yet in possession of any concrete proof.

It was then The Saturday Star enlisted the assistance of the Automobile Association.

AA technical manager Mr Fred Botha immediately sent out several of his employees to do random checks.

Oil fraud

Oil fraud at various garages, including the one in the original complaint.

Results of his tests will only be known on Monday.

Mr Botha said that the higher octane fuel contains a larger percentage of alcohol.

"If there is no alcohol found in the fuel after our tests then we know something is wrong and we will act accordingly. If this has been happening over a long period of time then it will be more apparent."

He said that if the AA tests prove positive, the South African Bureau of Standards (SABS) would be brought in for further investigation.

And, should further proof be obtained, a charge will be laid.

According to The Saturday Star's informant, the fraud may have been going on for as long as 30 years in which case petrol dealers would have made millions from unsuspecting members of the public.
Insurers tighten up on policyholders in car war

By Don Robertson

INSURANCE companies are getting tough. They are insisting that car owners fit either an anti-theft device or have the registration or body number of the car etched on all windows. If the owner does not comply, he or she suffers penalties in the event of theft.

But there seems to be confusion as to which devices should be fitted to meet insurance requirements.

It is estimated that about 180 cars are stolen every day in Johannesburg and about 60 000 a year in SA. One of the biggest short-term companies is processing 300 stolen vehicles a month.

Premiums

Thefts have forced insurance companies to more than double premiums in the past year in an effort to avoid massive underwriting losses.

Now they insist that motorists take stringent precautions against theft.

Jim McLenton, assistant general manager at SA Eagle, says car owners insured through his company were advised in February to install a recognised anti-theft device.

AA report

Failure to do so will result in an additional excess of 10% of the value of the car — over and above the standard R500 — being deducted from any payout.

In most cases, insurers who pay monthly were advised that this had to be done immediately, and those paying annually will have their contracts endorsed on renewal date.

Sean Lebano, general manager of Mutual & Federal, says clients have until the beginning of July to install an anti-theft device or face an additional R500 excess in the event of theft.

Mutual & Federal has forged its requirements on an AA report assessing the "inhibitor value" of anti-theft systems. It has agreed that a 70-point evaluation is suitable for most cars, but insists that for more expensive cars and mini-buses, the theft system should have a 90-point evaluation.

Percy Grobuzua, assistant general manager of Mutual & Federal, says: "The incidence of car theft has got out of hand in the past few months." Derek Fother, business development manager of Commercial Union, advises clients that unless an acceptable anti-theft device is installed by April, a 5% excess will be charged with a minimum of R1 000. This exceeds any other excess, up to R2 000, that might be in operation.

Syndicates

Commercial Union expects the minimum requirement to cost about R150, rising to about R500 if R500 a unit for expensive cars. The endorsement of policies will be made on renewal date.

Aegle has taken a low-key view of the issue, says deputy chief executive Peter Moss. "We have insisted only that the registration number and body number be etched on all windows and have not insisted on anti-theft devices. The reason for this is that there is no real assessment of the effectiveness of anti-theft devices.

"Most thefts are carried out by organised crime syndicates and as anti-theft devices become more sophisticated, they will simply call in their men from the field and teach them how to break the systems."

In all cases, the fitting of an approved anti-theft device or window etchings cancels the excess.

Motor manufacturers, acknowledging the problems of car theft, are fitting cars with anti-theft devices which range in price from R180 to R500.

Typically these are a basic Toyota unit which includes an engine immobiliser which is activated when the ignition is switched off and deactivated by a hidden microswitch.

Elaborate

More elaborate theft-proofing systems from Toyota have remote locking and unlocking for doors, warning alarms and the isolation of ignition, fuel and power systems which make "hot-wiring" impossible.

Control of the system is either by a hidden microswitch, electronic codes, jack plugs or remote. Steering locks have been redesigned to prevent breaking in. Interior sheet metal has been reinforced to prevent the removal of door locks.

BMW is working on anti-theft devices which include an inhibitor lock which prevents a door from being opened, even if the glass is broken.

All BMW cars have body numbers on windows, and extra plating has been installed in some areas. Cars with inboard computers have inhibitors which prevent starting. The Seven Series, to be launched later this year, is said to be theft-proof.

The AA has produced a report evaluating the various anti-theft devices and suggested prices. The report says that cars with electronic ignition and engine management as well as fuel injection provide more scope for anti-theft protection than those with conventional ignition systems and carburettors.

Big business

In America, car theft has become big business. As in South Africa, stolen US cars are often sold in Third-World nations.

US manufacturers have been given a three-year deadline to investigate the marketing of 14 critical components in such a way that identification cannot be erased, according to BMW magazine M South Africa.

German manufacturers are investigating computer-driven devices to control equipment that isolates critical components. Others are investigating "palm pads" for activating the computer. Instead of punching in a code to open the door, only those palms that have been programmed will be acceptable to the computer.

The Japanese are working on voice-responsive equipment to activate the computer.
Stolen cars turn wheels of Africa

Weekend Post Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG — South Africa is supplying many other African countries with cars and other vehicles stolen in the Republic.

Insurance sources said vehicles with a total value of R1 700 million were stolen in SA in 1986 — an average of 170 thefts every day — and they have made their way to all neighbouring countries, including Swaziland, Botswana, Lesotho, Zimbabwe and Zambia.

Fresh evidence of the vehicles being transported to countries all over Africa has now surfaced after the disclosure in the Swaziland Parliament this week that a vehicle stolen in that country had been traced in Egypt.

It was also disclosed that 20 000 cars were stolen in Swaziland last year, but it is believed that most of these vehicles had earlier been stolen in SA.

The police have increased their vehicle theft units on the borders. Swaziland is following suit and is working closely with the SAP and Interpol to control the problem.

Recently, several stolen vehicles were traced to Botswana and returned to SA.

More than 50 cars, all luxury German-made models, are still impounded in Zimbabwe.

The owners in SA have been waiting for more than a year for their return.
Stiffer penalties call by council for aged

By JOHN VAN DER LINDEN

The South African National Council for the Aged has called for heavier sentences for criminal assaults on the aged.

This was yesterday announced by the director of the council, Mr. S.C.A. Eckley, who said the council had over the past year become increasingly concerned by the alarming increase in crime against the elderly people in South Africa.

He said the council had also urged all welfare organizations and churches involved in care for the aged, to take drastic action in identifying and eliminating areas of high risk.

Some suggestions made were that:

- The aged be provided with advice and practical assistance to secure their premises.
- Courses be presented to the aged in close liaison with the South African Police, to increase security awareness.
- Neighbourhood patrols be initiated in high-risk areas.

The council also urged all senior citizens and their families to accept responsibility for their own safety by better preventive measures.

Mr. Eckley said two guidelines on safety measures were available, namely Safety for Senior Citizens, compiled by the SAP and available from all police stations, and the council's brochure, Prevention of Crime, available from the SA National Council for the Aged, PO Box 2335, Cape Town 8000.

Meanwhile, police have offered a substantial reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the killers of 80-year-old Tamboers Kloof spinster Miss Erna Becker.

Miss Becker's body was found, hands and feet bound and with a piece of cloth wound around her neck and face, in the lounge of her double-storey Upper Union Street house.

Any information may be given to Detective Warrant Officer Mike Barkuizen at 93-41035.
Row over election funds spreads

The National Party was accused today of "serious irregularities" in election fund-raising.

The accusation came after charges by President P W Botha, Cabinet Ministers and Nationalist newspapers that three independent candidates had collected funds in contravention of the Fund-Raising Act.

The accusation of Nationalist irregularities came from the national chairman of the Progressive Federal Party, Mr Peter Gastrow.

He disclosed that the PFP had prima facie evidence of "protection racket-like tactics" used by NP fund-raisers in their approaches to businessmen.

POLICE

Meanwhile legal representatives of the ex-Nationalist independents held talks yesterday with the director of fund-raising, Mr Japie Visser, after Nationalist Press reports that fund-raising by the independents had been referred to the police.

The independents — Dr Dennis Worrall, Mr Wynand Malan and Dr Esther Lategan — said in a joint statement they believed the money they had received for their campaigns was not affected by the provisions of the Fund-Raising Act.

And Mr David de Villiers, QC, former managing director of Nationale Pers — who resigned recently as director of the Nationalist newspaper group to support Dr Lategan in her campaign — said he had gone into the matter thoroughly.

"Certain aspects seem to be contentious," he said.

One such aspect was the suggestion that even money given spontaneously by individuals to the independents could be affected by the provisions of the Fund-Raising Act.

TOO SCARED

Mr Gastrow said today the PFP had for some time been investigating complaints from businessmen about tactics used by NP fund-raisers.

"In the past people have been too scared to speak out about these tactics for fear of action being taken against them," he said.

"The NP is spending millions of rand on the current election campaign. Where did all this money come from?" he asked.

"The National Party owes South Africa an answer on whether it receives funds from overseas through any of the multinational companies."

SALARY

Professor Nic Olivier, director of research for the PFP, asked last night why an investigation had not been launched into an appeal to constituents made last year by the Nationalist MP for Klip River, Mr Jacko Maree.

Mr Maree had asked for R24 000 because he could not serve them properly on his salary of R5 600 a year.

Mr Gastrow said a lot of companies that would otherwise not give money to the NP were forced to do so because of the fund-raising tactics.

He accused the National Party of hypocrisy in challenging the fund-raising of the independents when "it has skeletons in its own cupboard".

(Report by F S Estherhuys, 122 St George's Street, Cape Town, and by B Cameron, 85 Field Street, Durban)
Lawlessness becomes a major election issue

Govt blamed for soaring crime rate

By David Braun, Political Correspondent

The soaring crime rate is likely to become a major issue in the election with the Progressive Federal Party and the Conservative Party using it as evidence of the Government's insensitivity to the plight of the man in the street.

Mr Harry Schwarz, PFP MP for Yeoville, claimed today that the rising crime rate was proof of the failure of the Nationalist Government. In recent years the crime rate had increased at twice the rate of growth of the population.

The primary cause of this was unemployment and under-employment. The wealthy were protecting themselves with high walls, security gates and fierce guard dogs, but the poorer sections of the community could not afford these things. They were frightened to go out at night, Mr Schwarz said.

The Conservative Party is also alarmed at the crime rate. The CP candidate in Vereenigburg, Lieutenant-General Kobus Visser, is making it a major theme in his campaign. He has accused the Government of no longer caring about the effects of crime in the town in which Ministers had their homes protected by policemen.

Law and Order Minister Mr Adriaan Viljoen said in Parliament earlier this year that the surge in crime which was a worldwide phenomenon was largely caused by the economy, unemployment and the unrest situation.

He urged people to form crime watch organisations with a view to looking after their own neighbourhoods.

At a public meeting in his constituency this week, Mr Schwarz said that when the Government squeezed the economy in 1984 because it wanted to improve the balance of payments and get the money supply in order, it had boosted unemployment.

This, in turn, had contributed to unrest which, in turn, had contributed to the increasing incidence of crime caused by unemployment.

All-round increase

He said crime had soared in virtually every category.

Motor car theft had reached epidemic proportions so that insurance premiums had become so high they were getting out of reach of ordinary people.

People were also becoming too scared to go out at night to parties, political meetings, the cinema or restaurants because they did not know if, when they wanted to go home, their cars would still be where they left them, he said. Thefts from cars had also become a major problem.

Burglaries from homes had reached such proportions that, in some suburbs, hardly a house had not been broken into in the past year.

Mr Schwarz said there had also been an alarming increase in the incidence of muggings and assaults.

Mr Schwarz said that if the Government's excuse for the breakdown of law and order was that policemen had to be withdrawn to deal with unrest then this was an admission of defeat and evidence of the utter failure of the National Party to govern South Africa.

(Report by D M Braun, 131 Vernyjen Street, Pretoria)
Soaring crime rate a major election issue

THE soaring crime rate is set to become a major issue in the election, with both the Progressive Federal Party (PFP) and the Conservative Party (CP) using it as evidence of the Government’s insensitivity to the plight of the man in the street.

The escalating crime rate was "proof" of the utter failure the National Party had been as the Government of South Africa, PFP MP for Yeoville Mr Harry Schwarz said at a public meeting in Johannesburg this week.

Mr Schwarz said in an interview afterwards he planned to make this a major issue of the election campaign.

The CP is also using the increase in crime as an election issue.

Lieutenant-General Kobus Visser, a former CID chief and now the CP candidate in Vreewoordburg, said at a public meeting in his constituency this week that the Government no longer cared about the effects of crime on the man in the street because Ministers had their homes protected by policemen night and day.

He gave his audience a harrowing account of the effects of crime on victims. This was what the white community had been delivered to because the Government had scrapped influx control, General Visser said.

Mr Schwarz said in an interview that in recent years the crime rate had escalated at twice the rate of growth of the population.

The primary cause of this was unemployment and under-employment.

When the Government had taken steps in 1964 to squeeze the economy, because it wanted to improve the balance of payments and get the money supply in order, it had in fact boosted unemployment.

This in turn had contributed to unrest, which in turn had contributed to the increasing incidence of crime caused by unemployment.

He said crime had soared in virtually every category in recent years.

Motor car theft had reached epidemic proportions so that insurance premiums had become so high they were going out of reach of ordinary people.

People were also becoming too scared to go out at night to parties, political meetings, the cinema or restaurants because they did not know if their cars would still be there at the end of the evening.

Thefts from cars had also become a major problem. Burglaries from homes had reached such proportions that in some streets in certain suburbs hardly a house had not been broken into in the past year.

Mr Schwarz said there had also been an alarming increase in the incidence of muggings and assaults.

Mr Schwarz said he had pleaded for years for more suburban police stations and more policemen on patrol.

"We need ghost squads, bobbies on the beat and regular patrols. Policemen should be seen in crowded places on Saturday mornings to make people feel more secure."

He said he had tried to encourage people in his own constituency to join crime watch associations with a view to looking after the interests of their neighbours.

Mr Schwarz said that if the Government's excuse for the breakdown of law and order was that the policemen had to be withdrawn to deal with unrest then this was an admission of defeat and evidence of the utter failure of the National Party to govern South Africa.

(Report by D.M. Brain, 216 Verwoerden Street, Pretoria.)
CAR THEFT

The war on wheels

After politics, the favourite topic across dinner tables and pub counters these days is car theft. No wonder: last year alone 58 000 vehicles were reported stolen, equal to about a third of new car sales. In other words, for every three new cars introduced to South African roads, one vehicle (not necessarily new) was nicked.

And of the insured vehicles, only 15 in every 100 were recovered. Many, it is known, have somehow found their way as far north as Zaire and Kenya. Scams are clearly operating at the borders, and police are working on the problem.

van den Heever admits.

All seem to agree that the upsurge in car theft is part of the current crime-wave caused by accelerating unemployment and poorer socio-economic conditions.

All the same, there are wide implications for business. Motor manufacturers have accepted the challenge, and many new ranges destined for the market this year and next year will come with sophisticated protective devices fitted on the assembly line.

In the process, SA will become a world leader in the field of anti-theft gadgetry — simply because it has the world’s biggest problem.

Meanwhile, a multi-million rand industry is flourishing in add-on protection — some of it good, some of it bad; all of it expensive.

Short-term insurers, of course, are vitally affected. Not only are car thefts biting into underwriting profits (or increasing losses), but premiums are rapidly reaching levels which the market can no longer bear.

The good news is that just about everyone is doing something about it.

The police: Van den Heever reports that the number of stolen vehicles on the Witwatersrand (with 22 police stations) fell from a record high of 2 336 in November 1986, to 1 709 in March — a drop of 37%. Though reluctant to discuss strategy, he says hundreds of new Police College graduates were assigned to the Vehicle Squad in November.

He adds that several syndicates have been destroyed, and the worst areas have been pinpointed. Hillbrow and the Johannesburg CBD are currently the highest risk locations in the country.

But, as so many owners know, car thieves can strike anywhere and any time. Indeed, a worrying trend is the growing brazenness of gangs (often armed), who are increasingly breaking into suburban garages to lift vehicles specifically “ordered” by the syndicates.

With homeowners rightfully taking precautions to protect their property, prospects for violent encounters in the suburbs are increasing. Perhaps the most tragic example recently was the murder in Alberton of two young policemen trying to apprehend the occupants of a stolen car.

The insurers: SA Insurance Association’s (Saia) Rodney Schneeburger notes that the number of insured cars stolen increased 64% from 1984 to 16 156 in 1986. Over the same period Saia’s recovery rate dropped from 22%-24% (1982-84), to 15% in 1986.

Saia and senior police officers got together for round-table talks in February, and Schneeburger says results are already starting to flow.

He estimates that only about 25%-33% of SA’s 3,1m vehicles are insured — usually in the upper end of the market. One highly unpopular answer was to increase premiums.

But, says Schneeburger, Saia realised it could not simply continue upping the ante.

“As a result, we sought greater participation by our clients in taking preventative measures.”

Saia was asked to produce protection specifications for member companies, but not to recommend specific products (the AA, similarly, has no specifically recommended anti-theft devices).

As insurers went ahead and decided on devices, Saia finalised the specifications in co-operation with the SA Bureau of Standards. The report will be released next week.

The upshot is that, from now on, most premium rates will be adjusted according to the level of protection fitted to insured vehicles. Unprotected — or inadequately protected — cars will carry far bigger excesses and, in some cases, could become

Profile of the car theft industry

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**Brigadier van den Heever ... mum on strategy**

The 1986 theft figure was 36% up on the previous year, while the recovery rate showed a worrying fall (see graph).

By value, the “industry” was worth R875m in 1986, and the figure runs to billions for this decade. “It’s an epidemic,” Witwatersrand CID chief Brigadier Dries
HOW THEY STEAL IT

Manufacturers who will soon be installing vehicles with anti-theft devices are aiming to get as close as they can to the perfect system. Judging from methods currently used by car thieves, cars may end up looking like tanks.

It seems that the old method of smash-and-grab, by breaking into the car and "hot-wiring" the ignition system, is still being used. Perhaps this is not surprising, since door and ignition locks have been supplied as standard for years.

Other basic methods include a hard-to-steal Allen key that's filed down to look like a shark's tooth. This is used to corrupt door and ignition locks, which are generally made of soft metals. The range of tools, however, is wide, stretching from tennis balls with holes cut in them to reinforced packaging tape.

But it seems that the most common way of stealing cars is by getting the keys.

In disarming anti-theft devices, much depends on the experience of the thief. He may recognise a particular system, knowing where to cut power and activation wires.

The ultimate car theft is performed by picking up and removing the vehicle — or towing it away. This is "made to order" vehicle theft.

There will always be the hard cases. In one incident, a luxury car was fitted with a highly sophisticated system that beat the would-be thief. In his frustration, he defaced the car to an extent that repairs would have cost more than the market value of the vehicle.

In another case, a cautious student's alarm was set off by a would-be thief in a CBD. The alarm chased him off, but the alarm continued running, and attracted a policeman. When the student returned he had a flat battery and a R100 fine.

In an incident last week, a lawyer gave his car keys to a company driver, asking him to bring the car to the front of the building. Shortly afterwards, he got into the driver's seat and discovered it was not his car but the same recent model, the same colour — and accepted his car keys.

Similar incidents have occurred before, so while manufacturers are right in calling for more vigilance from owners, owners could be forgiven for demanding more vigilance from manufacturers.

uninsurable. This will apply particularly to expensive models, which are getting the most attention from thieves.

The manufacturers: for the carmakers, theft has created a kingsized marketing problem. The cynic's view is that manufacturers whose products rank high on the list of takeaways should be happy. It means more sales by way of replacement.

But the counter view, of course, is truer — that buyers will increasingly shun marques which are known to attract the attention of thieves.

First step, therefore, has been to address the problem at factory level. Old-style alarms and steering locks are no longer sufficient deterrents.

To many, the establishment of industry standards would be the answer; but there is no sign that manufacturers intend to get together on the issue. Nor have insurance companies laid down specific security standards — yet.

Samar group chairman Spencer Stirling explains: "As there is no consensus among the insurance industry as to a uniformly acceptable anti-theft system or systems, we are now working with the AA and the insurance industry. The idea is to develop an effective system which would meet the requirements of the insurance industry as a whole, and which would also be acceptable to the consumer."

As a result, as far as the FM can gather, every South African car manufacturer now has plans to install additional anti-theft devices on the production line — the first country in the world to do so.

As the National Association of Automobile Manufacturers (Naamas) notes: "It is accepted internationally that the fitment of anti-theft devices — besides the standard lock on the steering and door locks — is regarded as an after-market fitment option at the discretion of the end-customer."

But that will no longer be the case in SA.

In a few months, for example, Mercedes-Benz SA will release its new 560 SEC with a factory-fitted European-designed alarm system. It will come standard in the 'S' class, and optional on other models at R1 000.

Mercedes' Hans Leitgeb says policy is to not install a system that interferes with the operations of the car. "In the drivers' interest, we give operations priority over vehicle security." Mercedes will thus provide a sophisticated burglar alarm which does not immobilise the car.

But some other manufacturers, who have yet to take final decisions, seem to be leaning towards the immobiliser at this stage. This isolates one or more vital systems in the vehicle. The question then is merely how...
much security should be supplied and at what cost (see box).

It appears that the car which will come with the most in-factory-installed devices, is the BMW.

In the factory, the car’s glass is etched; extra shields are supplied around the door and boot locks; keys in extremely hard metal are cut by laser; key-entry to locks is inhibited; several pins are installed in the steering lock; and cars with on-board computers can be coded to inhibit ignition and activate the hooter as an additional alarm.

When BMW launches its new 7-series range in mid-year, the vehicles will be fitted on the factory floor with all these features, plus a system that will react to tampering with virtually any part of the vehicle. The security system will also be activated if an attempt is made to tow the car or lift it. Indeed, the “unsinkable” Titanic, there is no such thing as a theft-proof car. All science can hope to do, is stay a step ahead of the criminal mind.

It’s perhaps a cynical view, but survival strategy in the car-theft jungle, is to ensure that someone else’s vehicle is a more tempting target than your own.

The biggest problem is to overcome human carelessness. Police are constantly surprised, for example, at the number of cars which are stolen with keys. Keys have been cut from impressions made while the vehicle has been in for service; duplicates can be made from spares kept in company transport offices; and, surprisingly often, keys made for one car will also fit another. For example, in one independent test three cars were opened and started, using the keys of 10 similar models.

In short, South Africans need to become more key-conscious. There is growing pressure for greater control over locksmiths who currently operate on a no-questions-asked basis, when duplicate keys are ordered. The SAP is now lobbying for a change in the law to require locksmiths to obtain proof of ownership, and ID, from anyone wanting keys cut.

Keys are a great problem, but even here the latest techniques can provide vehicle protection in several ways — for example by hiding deactivators in unlikely places.

The AA test of 27 anti-theft devices last month (see box), has spotlighted the technology side. The result, predictably, is that the best systems cost the most money.

The AA’s Fred Bothma, who compiled the report, feels the two most vital considerations are a custom-made anti-theft device and professional installation. “You can have an inexpensive isolator fitted to a car. If it’s done in an unusual way — for example, when the switch is in the boot — the thief will probably be baffled and give up.”

The lowest test score was 34, the highest 159; and 13 scored more than 100 points. The short-term insurance industry reacted to the report by saying — unofficially — that a device installed in a car with a score of less than 100 would be “unacceptable.” The insurance option in that case is to load premiums further, increase excesses — or to simply refuse the business.

As the motor industry moves onto the defence, there is every hope that the incidence of car thefts will decline. The best defence, however, will be to get the economy moving again, to provide enough jobs to make such felony unnecessary.

HOW TO PROTECT IT

Anti-theft devices available in SA fall into two main categories — mechanical and electronic. Judging from the AA report, the most effective — and expensive — are electronic.

The system that scored the highest rating on the AA test is manufactured by the All Car Comforts group.

The six models in the range are “add-on” which allows the consumer to start at the bottom of the range and trade up by adding on. This is the range:

- Immobiliser (R300);
- Plus an alarm (R500);
- Plus a link to central locking (R650);
- Plus flashing light-emitting diodes and four-way flasher (R750);
- Plus a fuel-solenoid shut-off (R850); and
- Plus separate battery back-up; multiple sirens; and an audible ignition beeper (R1 200).

All Car Comforts group MD Trevor Muir emphasises that all the alarm systems are automatically armed. This means no conscious effort is needed by the driver to activate the system when the vehicle is left unattended.
Faction fights: A murder epidemic

By CARMEL RICKARD
in Durban

IF faction fighting has you puzzled, you are in excellent company. The first ever conference on the subject was held in Durban last week and it soon became clear that one really knows what it is or what causes this problem which claims so many lives every year.

In the week of the conference, 26 people known to have been killed in what police termed “faction fighting” in North and northern parts of the country were reported dead. The conference was organized by the Department of Criminology of the University of Zululand.

Head of the Department, Professor O. G. Ntabanehle, said in his keynote speech that faction fighting was so sad it could be described as a “murder epidemic”.

On the causes of the fighting he said: “The occurrence of faction fighting is nothing but mystification. We are all mystified about the etiology of this form of criminal violence which cannot be quickly eliminated by stating that “these guys are fighting over boundaries or girls” or simply “these guys are crazy.”

Other speakers gave a range of explanations.

They included the theories of Umbumulo magistrate T. N. Ngcobo, who favoured witchcraft, witchdoctors, superstition and “disputes over males” as causes.

Gcobo’s argument was based on the fact that in 1986 when 100 people were killed, 100 buildings in the area were destroyed and 12,000 left homeless.

Another speaker who offered an explanation was the personnel manager of Hlobane Colliery, N. C. Ngcobo. He isolated three causes of faction fighting on two mines: “intra-tribal faction fighting resulting from deep-seated ethnic differences; politicalisation of strikes resulting from union with ethnic/political ideologies and inter-tribal faction fighting as a result of economic pressure for employment opportunities.”

Goodey said most of the “active participants” in the clashes were the Basutos and Xhosas, with the Basutos the aggressors in the majority of instances.

“Pit is well known to all hostel administrators that the Basuto is a tough, arrogant type of person, best known for his fighting ability in stamp- taking and other underground operations. This fighting ability makes him indispensable for most of the serious tasks on the mines.”

“Coming from an impoverished mountainous country where his survival against the elements has made him a hardy person, one is of the opinion that the Basuto is an unique type of person whose natural astuteness have had an influence on his total personality.”

He compared them with the Xhosa miners, saying “as the Xhosa are generally known as people who steal and sell beer and use foul and insulting language. They also trace members of other tribes and often direct their foul language at the Basuto who strongly object to such treatment from people who they regard as a ‘lower class’.”

“Do not doubt this comeptency breeds hostility and will erupt when one least expects anything to happen.”

Goodey’s suggestions for ending faction fighting included the provision of family accommodation and “a minute of silence in each room.”

KwaZulu’s leader M. M. Bhelele suggested that the underlying causes of faction fighting included “over-riding poverty, the demoralisation of a community, the oppression of a community (and) the high absentee rate of able-bodied men caused by the migrant labour system.”

He said that faction fights “like blood feuds everywhere, are extremely difficult to curb and it is as though one has to wait for the labour force to burn out... it is one of those human phenomena which had defied the kind of human understanding which leads to reasonable solutions.”

However, he went on to say that the blame for the situation on Western Christian donor agencies. By refusing to give money to KwaZulu or sikhathi projects, these funding groups lead KwaZulu miners to faction fighting, he said.

Only the legal definition of faction fighting is unambiguous, though the conference delegates seemed reasonably certain it should be stopped.

All you need is a welding kit, and you’re a major supplier

FACTION fighting is not what it used to be.

During a two-day symposium on the subject in Dutton last week, a number of speakers outlined the “development” in faction fighting over the last century.

Head of the Department of Criminology at the University of Zululand, Professor G. Ntabanehle, said that in the “olden days... warring factions lined up facing each other in broad daylight.”

“Loopholes” were added with stocks, shields and assagais. They fought until honour was satisfied. Women and children were never harmed.

Nowadays, however, men and women and children are killed with firearms in hit-and-run raids under cover of darkness in what is still described as faction fighting.

A senior police officer attending the conference said faction fighting in many of the racial areas with which he was familiar was “like war.”

“It’s organised in a highly sophisticated way. They use lethal firearms, and have well-trained groups whose job it is to reconnoitre.”

“They often make use of ambushed when their spies inform them of the movements of their ‘enemies’ — and then it’s just slaughter.”

Gcobo said in regions “infected with faction fights”, children aged between six and 11 were schooled in how to run between “dimp” and how to use weapons.

By CARMEL RICKARD
in Durban

He told of comparatively recent “development” in faction fighting.

Every able-bodied man, irrespective of where he works, is expected to join in “faction fighting.” If he shirked this responsibility he would face victimisation.

To avoid this kind of personal risk — and to hold on to their jobs — many migrant workers living far from their homes have developed a system of “surrogate fighters.”

They pay “hams-bayo” to stand in for them when their group is involved in a fight.

McKandawazi also gave details of illegal firearms factories in both rural and urban townships.

In one such factory in Mzamba outside Durban, five people were arrested in connection with illegally manufacturing firearms.

Police found dozens of partly completed 303 rifles as well as spare parts for guns, welding equipment and tools for gun-making. The “finished product” sold for about R60 in 1981.

In another such factory, this time in Weston, police found most of the illegal home-made guns had 32 bore barrels. This piping is easily available from plumbing suppliers and is “a great asset to gun manufacturers”, McKandawazi said.
Lax security drives up car insurance

HELENA PATTEN

IF MOTORISTS do not increase their security consciousness, car insurance premiums and excesses could rise to levels where new cars will only be available to cash buyers, said an insurance broker.

Charles Thatcher, MD of PFV Personal Insurance Brokers, said in a Press release the current car theft boom could lead to private buyers not being able to obtain hire purchasing or leasing finance because they could not afford the comprehensive insurance required with such deals.

He said the focus on electronic alarm and immobilising devices, emphasising a physical solution, has distracted from the real root of the problem, which he saw as the lax attitude towards security of many SA motorists.

"They do not use lock-up garages properly. Few really think about security when they park their cars.

"Some leave parking tickets in full view inside their cars instead of taking the tickets with them. Some still leave cars unlocked, even with keys in the ignition.

"Ultimately, far more will be achieved by correcting attitudes than by physical or electronic devices." He said no device would deter the professional car thief.

Even if there were a device to seize all four wheels, the professional would sooner, rather than later, find a way around the obstacle, he said.
Jo'burg branded capital of crime

By Michael Chester

The Johannesburg metro-complex has been branded the Crime Capital of South Africa by researchers investigating the heaviest run of insurance claims on record.

The unenviable title does not stem from population density, but from a steep upward curve in the crime rate.

Johannesburg with its Reef neighbours was by far the worst hit in a nation-wide increase in burglaries that saw household insurance claims soar by 60 percent over the past 12 months.

Television sets and video recorders emerged as top favourite targets — and insurance companies reeled under increases in replacement costs caused by a weak rand exchange rate that had to cope with higher price tags on imported electronic devices.

Commercial Union, which conducted the survey, confirmed suspicions that the Reef heads the hit-list of car thieves.

Managing director Mr Bill Rutherford said motor claims rocketed by as much as 74 percent in the past year on the Reef.

"Even more depressing, the recovery rate of insured vehicles is a mere 15 percent."

"The blow can be softened," he said, "if everyone co-operates in improving anti-theft precautions to curb insurance losses and hold the lid on premium ratings."

"The SA Insurance Association is now seeking to establish a uniform set of standard specifications for motor anti-theft devices."
Insurance claims rocket as crime hits new peak

The worst crime wave in history is sweeping South Africa, with motor vehicle thefts claims jumping 74 percent on the Reef and household insurance claims rising 60 percent on average last year, according to the annual report of a major insurance company.

Vehicles with a total value of R1,700 million were stolen in South Africa last year, while there was an average of 1,485 thefts a day with at least 35 being recorded daily in the Johannesburg area alone.

This was revealed in the annual report of Commercial Union, one of South Africa’s major insurance companies and the country’s biggest motor insurer.

A second company, SA Eagle, has written to policy holders saying that burglaries and thefts from private dwellings have escalated to such an extent that they face two alternatives - either to discontinue writing this class of business or to increase rates yet again.

SA Eagle will increase its rates from May 1.

Mr. Bill Rutherford, managing director of Commercial Union, said: 'Burglary and theft losses have only risen 5 percent, but in some areas the rise in household claims was much more than 50 percent.'

Television sets, and video recorders were far the most attractive targets for thieves.

A total of 4,039 thefts from motor vehicles were reported in the Durban area - one every two hours - according to the latest statistics for the period from July 84 to June 30 1985.
SA in grip of its worst crime wave

Post Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG — The worst crime wave in history is sweeping South Africa, with motor vehicle theft claims jumping 74% on the Reef and household insurance claims rising 60% on average last year.

These figures are given in the annual report of a major insurance company, Commercial Union, the country's biggest motor insurer.

The report says vehicles with a total value of R1700 million were stolen in South Africa in 1986.

There were an average of 179 thefts a day with at least 55 being recorded daily in the Johannesburg area alone.

A second company, SA Eagle, has written to policy-holders saying that burglaries and thefts from private dwellings have risen to such an extent that they face two alternatives — either to discontinue writing this class of business or to increase rates yet again.

SA Eagle will increase its rates from May 1.

Commercial Union’s managing director, Mr Bill Rutherford, said the market recovery rate of insured vehicles was only 15%.

In some areas the rise in household claims was much more than 60%.

Television sets and video recorders were by far the most attractive targets for thieves.

A total of 4000 thefts from motor vehicles were reported in the Durban area — one every two hours — according to the latest statistics.

Nine academics back NP

PRETORIA — Nine top academics from five Afrikaans universities said in a signed declaration today they were convinced the National Party was the only effective instrument for constitutional reform and called on voters not to "turn their back" on a "reform-minded government."

Among them is Professor J V Cilliers of the University of Port Elizabeth’s law faculty.

The statement, released in Pretoria by Prof P R Botha, is an apparent response to the action of more than 300 Stellenbosch academics in distancing themselves from the Government.

Reports of Nationalists moves to obtain a "pro-Government" list of academics appeared at the weekend, and it was later reported that a bid to get "hundreds" of signatures had failed.

Prof S A Strauss of Unisa’s law faculty — one of the nine — insisted the move was made independently of the NP.

The others on the list are Prof J V de Plessis, University of OPS law faculty, Prof P C Fourie, Dean of the university’s faculty of Economics and Social Sciences, Prof P J Maree, Dean of the faculty of Education at the Rand Afrikaans University, Prof J P Poolman, vice-rector of RAU, Prof D P J Smith, Dean of students at RAU, and Prof J D Theron, Dean of the faculty of Education at the University of OPS.

The nine associate themselves with "the growing middle stream of reform-minded people".

They say white voters have simply to choose the best instrument for reform. This could only be the NP. — Sapa

(Report by Mark van der Velzen, 914 Barclays Bank Building, Church Square, Pretoria)
Water scheme tenders could be out by year-end

**Business Day Reporter**

TENDERS for some of the access roads related to the Lesotho Highlands Water Scheme could be out by year-end, industry sources say.

Construction and civil engineering companies expect the scheme will provide a fillip for the industry, which has not seen any major infrastructural work for some time.

Basil Read financial director Dave Wassung says contracts on the access roads alone are likely to total about R100m.

"Basil Read is currently negotiating with US, French and German companies with a view to tendering for dam and tunnel work in consortium with overseas partners," Wassung says.

Tendering for more than 220km of tunnelling will be called for when the first phase of the scheme gets underway. This work should, in all probability, start early in 1989, he says.

THE recovery rate for stolen cars smuggled into neighbouring states has improved.

SAP Brigadier "Bosie" Smit says: "I think we have made a lot of progress in negotiating with and getting help from officials of neighbouring states," says Smit.

SA Insurance Association chairman Rodney Schneeberger says: "A large number of cars are involved. Negotiations are underway with Swaziland and other neighbouring countries."

Amid the stepped-up efforts to recover stolen SA cars, Swazi police station commander Assistant Superintendent Alfred Dlamini has been sentenced to five days' jail for contempt of court for ignoring a court order to hand over documents on cars allegedly stolen in SA.

Number of summonses decreases

SOUTH AFRICANS are whittling away at the debt mountain built up during the past three years of recession. Economists claim this is apparent from the latest statistics released yesterday by Central Statistical Services.

The number of summonses for debt for the three months to February decreased by 11.8% to 187 073. In the same period civil judgments for debt decreased by 15% to R92 344.

The number of civil default and consent judgments served on business enterprises and private individuals fell by 3 762 in February to 34 075 compared with February 1986.

The amounts involved decreased by R10 257m to R61 809m.
CHARGES have been laid against the African Bank and four of its employees for alleged fraud and contravention of exchange control regulations which resulted in profits of R100.7m.

The 420 charges, read in the Johannesburg Magistrate's Court yesterday by magistrate J B van der Merwe, relate to alleged unlawful dealings in the financial rand resulting in an amount of $119m (R380m) leaving the country.

The accused are: African Bank, represented by bank chairman Samuel Mokgathi Motsepeghane, MD Motsi Moses Jacob Maubane, GM foreign exchange Alan Young, GM money markets Henry Alexander Harper, and assistant GM foreign exchange Arthur Edward Ferreira.

The accused were charged on 105 counts of fraud and three sets of contraventions of exchange control regulations. These are:

- 105 counts for the contravention of exchange control regulations pertaining to unlawful exports of capital from the country.
- The indictment said the profits were shared as follows: African Bank, R32.1m; Afsek CC, a close corporation whose members were Maubane, Young and Harper, R25.5m; Ferreira, R9.4m; Kenneth George Bosch, R1.04m; Peter John Nock, R1.04m; Isaac Stephanus Cornelius Buys, R1.04m; Johannes Cornelius Engelbrecht, R1.04m; and Priscilla Wilson, R1.04m.
- The state alleged in six of the fraud counts the accused pretended to Rand Merchant Bank (RMB) that Afbank was authorized to deal in financial rands. Counts seven to 105 allege the accused fraudulently placed orders for financial rands with the London firm Smith New Court (SNC).
- SNC was then instructed to credit these financial rands to the African Bank's account at the Commissioner Street branch of the Trust Bank.
- It is further claimed the accused

To Page 2
Police probe SAA ticket fraud

SOUTH AFRICAN AIRWAYS trade exchange agreements could have been used as a way to defraud the airline. That is one of the possibilities being considered by the transport branch of the police, which is investigating a massive fraud involving hundreds of SAA tickets.

SAA auditors are conducting an internal inquiry into financial irregularities and two SAA officials have been suspended.

SAA PRO Francois Louw said yesterday the airline exchanged products with companies in trade exchange agreements, for example advertising for air transport.

Air tickets were also used for this purpose and the police were investigating whether fictitious agreements were concluded with the collaboration of outsiders.

Another method which could have been used was for people to pay for an economy-class ticket and receive a first-class one.

A Johannesburg travel agent Lindsay (Margaret) Hatzi appeared in the Johannesburg Magistrate’s Court on Friday on charges of fraud involving airline tickets said to be worth about R1m.

Hendrik Conradie, president of the Association of South African Travel Agents (ASATA), said yesterday the public need not be concerned about the investigation, as even if a ticket was issued contrary to regulations, it remained a contractual document which had to be honoured by the SAA.

He said it would be “improper” to comment on whether the blank tickets issued to travel agents by the International Association of Travel Agents (IATA) were also being used fraudulently.

### AIRLINE MOVEMENTS

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East London to Johannesburg

SA520 1300 1400 1500 1600 1700

Gallo C c
SAA ticket scam is tip of iceberg

The police investigation into the alleged fraudulent sale of SAA tickets will skim only the surface of the widespread bribery and corruption prevalent in the travel industry, a leading Johannesburg travel agent claims.

Miller Weeden Travel group MD Michael Menof says airlines are buying customer goodwill by rewarding secretaries with overseas tickets for booking company travel with their airline; forfeiting the 25% payment on discount tickets available to travel agency staff; effectively giving them away; upgrading tickets from economy or business class to first class; giving away free tickets; and waiving overriding commissions.

He blames high prices laid down by SAA for most of the industry's ills.

His attack comes after reports of a police investigation into irregularities in the use of SAA's trade exchange agreements.

An SAA official has been suspended and a Johannesburg travel agent has appeared in court on a charge of fraud.

Foreign carriers must submit to SAA-determined prices—which are too high, he says. As they are making good profits, they can afford to give away tickets to get customers.

'There are absolutely too many controls,' he adds.
PW a terrorist  
- UCT students

POLICE and students clashed several times at the University of Cape Town this week with police using tear gas and rubber bullets to disperse the rioting students.

The Police in Information said on Wednesday that students demonstrated with placards and were on the march. They shouted slogans and were led to a stretch of highway running below the university, where the police officers used fire hoses to disperse the crowd.

"Police used tear gas and rubber bullets to disperse the crowd. Eighty people, all students and all above 18 years of age, were arrested," the bureau said.

On April 24, a group of 1,000 students gathered on the edge of De Waal Drive, the main road leading to the university, to protest against the closure of the University of Cape Town's campus and the presence of security forces.

"On April 24, the campus was closed and the police responded with tear gas. The students were arrested and some were injured," said the bureau.

The day was marked by a series of protests and demonstrations, with students and faculty members calling for the university's management to address their concerns.

A court decision

The court ruled that the University of Cape Town had acted unlawfully in closing the campus.

The court decided that the university had acted unreasonably in closing the campus and that the closure had been unlawful.

The court ordered the university to reopen the campus immediately and to pay damages to the students and faculty members affected by the closure.

Debele dismissal

Tribal Authority.

This means that they lose their seats in the assembly, which they hold by virtue of their tribal positions.

Andries Mahlangu - also a member of the tribal authority as well as an elected member of the assembly - was expelled from his seat, the statement added.

The assembly took its decision on the grounds that the conduct of the three members had become an embarrassment to the assembly and the Kwandebele government.

The motion, which was introduced by a member of the Nduna Tribal Authority, Kg Mahlangu, said:

"Disaffection has been expressed by members of the tribe concerning the way in which the tribal authority had been
US court sentences SA's kubus king to 18 months jail

Dispatch Correspondent

WASHINGTON — A Kansas city court sentenced South African kubus king, Gert Theron, to 18 months in jail this week for his role in a nationwide "ponzi" scheme that bilked American investors of up to $100 million.

Pleading in vain for a lighter sentence, Theron told US District Judge Earl O'connor that he was broke and was supporting his family on borrowed money. "I beg the court to understand my position."

The 49-year-old California resident was the last of 12 defendants in the case to be convicted. The others, including his brother Frans, had earlier agreed to co-operate with their prosecution in return for leniency.

They received sentences ranging from three months to two years and fines of up to $10,000.

Prosecutors charged that the Therons brought their milk culture pyramid scheme to the US in 1984 and within less than a year had signed up 30,000 investors in 30 states.

Investors were required to buy $225 worth of culture kits from Activator Supply Company and were promised that Culture Farms Incorporated would pay them $900 for the resultant sludge which would then be used by a cosmetics company called House of Cleopatra's Secret.

US attorney, Mr Rein Burgess, charged that "the only demand for the cultures was the demand created by the defendants for the purpose of inducing investors to purchase activators."
Number of vehicle thefts declining

By Craig Kotze,
Crime Reporter

The number of vehicles stolen in South Africa — a record 57,000 last year — is declining, according to police.

And according to the South African Insurance Association (SAIA) the downward trend could result in the reviewing of high insurance premiums.

In the Witwatersrand police division — comprising Sandton, Johannesburg, Randburg and Midrand — police have registered a drop in car thefts of about 800 cars between last November and April this year.

More than 45 percent of the cars stolen in South Africa are taken on the Witwatersrand, a police spokesman said.

In December, 1,795 cars were stolen in this area while in April thieves made off with "only" 1,589 vehicles, according to the latest police statistics.

This was also a drop on the same period last year, said a spokesman.

He gave the following figures for car thefts since December:
December — 1,795; January — 2,033; February — 1,665; March — 1,769, and April — 1,589.

Nationally, police statistics also show a significant drop over the November-April period, with 5,432 vehicles stolen in November and 4,438 in April.

"Car theft nationally is definitely on the decline," said the spokesman.

Lieutenant Pierre Louw, police liaison officer for the Witwatersrand, said the drop was because police had instituted active and innovative policing methods such as establishing new units to combat vehicle theft.

He also said the success was also due to one manufacturer — BMW — installing anti-theft devices in their cars.

Lieutenant Louw appealed to other manufacturers to also install anti-theft devices in their vehicles.

Mr. Rodney Schneeberger, director of SAIA, said today that there had been a reduction lately in the crime rate but it was still too early to make a decision on premiums.
Workers at Wits protest

By STAN MHLUNGU

WITS workers this week staged a sit-in protest following threats to call a colleague to appear before a disciplinary committee for allegedly attending a May Day rally.

The worker, Robert Mkhize, is a shop steward and member of the General and Workers' Union.

The meeting is believed to have been held at the Student's Arcade on April 30 and Mkhize claimed he was posted to work as a security official at the building.

According to Gawu, Mkhize's supervisor, verified the claim that he was posted at the students' building and did not go there to attend any meeting.

Gawu has condemned the action of the university authorities, calling for the end of harassment to its members.
'Ghost squad' has success in crimebusting

By JOHANN NEL

The crime prevention unit of the SA Police at Louis le Grange Square has achieved dramatic success since the launch of an "intensive" operation in Port Elizabeth at the beginning of the year, police said today.

Led by Warrant-Officer Neil Schultz and W/O Jakos Deenas, the unit, which is perhaps better known to the public as the "Ghost Squad", has made 349 arrests in connection with various crimes ranging from housebreaking to armed robbery and murder since January.

Captain Peet Grobler, liaison officer for the SA Police in the Eastern Cape, said the unit was established last year with the specific purpose of getting to the scene of a crime within minutes and to maintain constant surveillance of areas with high crime rates.

The result, he said, was that many criminals were caught in the act. This, in itself, served as a major crime deterrent.

Arrests by the 10 members of the unit include those for housebreaking, 65; 12 for car theft; 12 for theft from cars, two attempted car thefts, eight thefts, 12 for possession of stolen goods, two for armed robbery, four for fraud, four for intimidation, five for stock theft and one each in connection with attempted rape and murder.

They have also arrested 202 people in connection with petty crimes like drunkenness, loitering and creating a disturbance.

The members of the unit, Capt Grobler said, had worked an average of 14 hours a day.

They were in constant radio contact with Louis le Grange Square and could be at the scene of a crime within minutes.

Areas with known high crime rates are sometimes watched with binoculars from rooftops by members of the unit, who are in radio contact with their colleagues below. This accounted for the large number of people arrested "red-handed".

W/O Schultz also gives crime-prevention lectures to businesses and companies which want to keep their personnel up to date with the crime situation in the city.

He can be contacted during working hours at 041-343434.
Retail sector to lose R800m through theft

The retail sector would lose R800m — 2% of a R4bn turnover — this year through theft, the Associated Chamber of Commerce (Assocom) said.

Assocom is investigating strategies to combat theft after numerous representations from retailers, particularly the grocery chains.

Assocom legal adviser and security committee secretary Ken Warren said at the weekend that the "staggering sums" lost through shrinkage — theft — cost business and the economy dearly.

Unisa criminology professor Beaty Ndude, who is assisting Assocom, said shrinkage, whether active or passive, accounted for about 40% of losses and shoplifting for about 25%.

Checkers MD Clive Well estimated that major supermarket chains lose more than R100m annually.

He said security was one of the major problems facing supermarkets as shrinkage was hidden in margins, so driving them up.

Edgars CE Vic Hammond said shrinkage was always greater in a downturn or when communication between management and staff was bad. He said Edgars had conducted experiments which showed the costs of bringing shrinkage down through added surveillance was greater than the costs of shrinkage.

Warren said during the Christmas period about R14bn was lost through shrinkage. Assocom had urged tough action as part of a nationwide crackdown.

Already judicial procedures had been streamlined and courts had promised swift punishment for offenders.

Security experts said a worrying aspect of the increase in shoplifting had been the incidence of involvement of teenagers.

Children as young as 13 had already appeared in juvenile courts — many with previous convictions. Sentence was usually postponed until the child reached 18, when the case was reviewed, and sentence passed.

A recent Assocom survey found the

Retail sector to lose R800m via theft

Profile of a shop-lifter had altered radically:

☐ Most shoplifters are likely to be between 11 and 30;
☐ More women than men are apprehended;
☐ Teenagers and children are more likely to be involved than adults;
☐ Depression and psychological problems lead to theft;
☐ Some shoppers have psychological problems which cause them to steal.

Industry sources said the main problem was theft by employees.

A source said: "About 75% of all retail theft can be attributed to collusion by staff with customers and friends and through backdoor leaks."

"We are encouraging stores to take a deterrent approach and put in uniformed security staff along with other measures."

He declined to say what the other security measures were, but said most stores in the retail sector had their own security and, in cases where employees were discovered to be stealing, most now instituted proceedings against the culprits.
Watson brother claims murder bid

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Govt theft suspect dies in detention

By BARRY STREEK

TWO government officials, one of whom subsequently died in detention, were suspected of stealing R278 657 from the House of Assembly administration, the Auditor-General, Dr Joop de Loor, reported yesterday.

He reported theft or irregular use of government monies totalling R991 661 in the Budget and Auxiliary Services division of the House of Assembly administration for the 1989/90 financial year.

He said R111 963 in welfare pension money was "obtained in an irregular manner by an officer. The officer was taken into custody but died during detention".

Another R168 043 was fraudulently obtained from Veld and Forest documents in 93 cases, R19 942 had since been recovered.

Dr de Loor, who was on his way to Pretoria last night, could not be reached for further comment. His personal assistant, Mr Willie Brits, said no further details such as names or the circumstances of the death would be released, as "all that Dr de Loor wanted to report to Parliament was contained in the auditor-general's report".

More information

"The report will be referred to the standing committee on public accounts, which starts to sit on Wednesday, June 17, after which conclusions will be reached," he said.

Mr Brits said members of various political parties would now be on the committee. He also said the committee had decided not to go into the financial transactions of the House of Assembly. It was waiting for a new committee on the matter.

Dr de Loor reported that R2.10 001, in respect of 40 receipts issued for the recovery of arrear rent, was not brought to account, and R2.240 in two salary warrant vouchers was "fraudulently taken by an unknown person. It is informed that a further warrant vouchers which totalled R12.001 was cashed irregularly by 10 known persons and one former official", Dr de Loor said.

In respect of nine cases, R7.603.53 was recovered by the Reserve Bank from commercial banks while one case of R903.62 was still receiving the Treasury's attention.

The state attorney was recovering R4.015.69 from a former official at the rate of R50 a month.

Dr de Loor said, two internal audit inspections on financial matters in the department disclosed no serious errors or irregularities.

SA's top policeman to retire

By CHRIS STEYN

The Commissioner of Police, General Johann Coetzee, will retire at the end of July, the Minister of Law and Order, Mr Adriaan Vlok, announced yesterday.

General Coetzee, 59, is to take up service with the South African National Defence Force's Republic Commando Corps, the minister said.

Mr Vlok did not give details of General Coetzee's new appointment, but said that "in his announcement will be made in due time by a ministerial colleague".

General Coetzee, who was born in Molenhoek, started his career in the Mounted Police as the age of 16.

He joined the security police in 1954 and became known as a top-flight interrogator and a spy master during the 25 years he worked there.

During that period he was responsible for several blows to the African National Congress and the South African Communist Party, including the running of undercover spies Gerard Ladi and Major Craig Williamson.

And Bram Fischer once said of him: "After the revolution, he will be my garden boy."

But Fischer, the brilliant Johannesburg advocate turned underground leader of the SAP, was ultimately unmasked by General Coetzee who infiltrated Secret Army Unit Nos 8 and 10 of General Ladi into the Communist Party.

General Coetzee will also be remembered for the bravery he showed when he was walked unarmed into the bank during the Silverton siege in Pretoria. While inside, he dropped a miniature transmitter to minister conversation among the terrorists.

Mr Vlok said General Coetzee had completed 41 years of faithful and worthy service, and deserved his well-earned retirement.

"The SAP losses in General Coetzee is a person of unusual ability who has served the force and South Africa with distinction."

"His ability to handle the most complex situation with insight commands respect from friend and foe alike," he said.

Mr Vlok said he had given permission for the new district headquarters of the police in Newlands, Johannesburg — in the area where General Coetzee served for most of his police career — to be named after him.
Call for stricter control over video, audio tape piracy

Dispatch Correspondent

CAPE TOWN — The International Labour Organisation (ILO) has called for stricter control over video and audio tape piracy, which it says is threatening the future of performing artists.

It says technological innovations, such as audio and video taping and the lack of control over piracy, is also leading to a drop in producers' profits.

An article in the International Labour Review says performers are protected by piecemeal measures based on national and international copyright agreements that have largely outlived their usefulness.

It calls on governments to formulate and implement an overall policy for the performing arts, of which financial support and provision of decent working and living conditions are essential parts.

The study says an integrated approach is also required at the international level, and adds that the ILO can play a leading role in developing this.

"The cumulative effect of private copying is enormous — lost sales of records and pre-recorded cassettes, and hence lower profits for producers, lower income for performers and, in the long run, fewer jobs," the study says.

It says that although some governments have introduced legal penalties for piracy, no such action has been taken in those countries where the manufacture of pirated products is prevalent.

"The most important wave of innovations, which will crest in the coming years, consists of satellite communication systems and cable networks. The full impact of this development on performers is hard to assess," it says.
Insider trading—
and how to curb it

What form of regulation is required to curb insider trading, the improper use of insider information?

This is an excerpt from a speech given at the University of the Witwatersrand last week by Johannesburg lawyer MICHAEL KATZ

May we pause for a moment to examine specific substantive law remedies. The criminal sanction is considered by many to be the most effective remedy and deterrent. Insider trading was made a criminal offence by the provisions of Section 233 of the Companies Act 1980 in England, and 12 offences concerning insider trading came into operation. The legislature in SA has also opted for the criminal sanction. The Van Wyk de Vries Commission of Enquiry into company law reform in SA, which reported in 1971, was essentially opposed to civil remedies for insider trading breaches primarily because of the anomie of stock exchange transactions, it preferred instead the criminal sanction.

Civil remedy

Accordingly an offence was created, which appears in Section 233 of the Companies Act No 61 of 1973. Unwittingly, a civil remedy was thereby created on the basis of the crime-tort theory. Inspecting as concerns the offence created in terms of Section 233, the provisions thereof are entirely defective, which has probably been the main reason for the fact that there has never been any prosecutions, let alone convictions, in SA for the offence of insider trading.

In this regard, attention is drawn to the following three defects:

- It is an offence for a director, officer or other person to contravene the provisions of Section 233.
- The term “person” is so narrowly defined in Section 229 that may tippee who receives a tip from the director would not fall within the net of Section 233. Thus, for example, friends and family of directors who receive information from him can deal with it to their advantage with impunity.
- The events which trigger off an offence are very limited. They are essentially confined to knowledge of a transaction of the company or the state of affairs of the company.

Thus a director of target company who negotiates with a predator for the acquisition of such target company can deal in the shares of the target company, since the target company is passive and it is not a transaction of the target.

No time period for the market to digest the release of inside information is stipulated.

Thus if a major transaction is announced in a newspaper circulating in a remote part of the country one morning it would be permissible for the directors at 8am on that morning to deal in shares of that company on the Stock Exchange.

I respectfully submit that the following provisions should constitute an optimum basis for regulating insider trading in SA, namely:

- Section 233 of the Companies Act should be repealed.
- In substitution for the repealed Section 233 there should be inserted an offence along the lines of Rule 10b-5 of the US Securities Exchange Act, which essentially prohibits the use of fraud or deceit in securities transactions. This provision would apply not only to insiders but also to the recipients of information from insiders — i.e., tippees.
- A specified body (preferably the Merger and Takeover Panel which is shortly to be introduced) should be vested with the function of monitoring and supervising the prosecution of insider trading offences.

Obligation

This body should be vested with powers of surveillance, inspection, subpoena and so forth. Once it is properly functioning the public will probably give it tip-offs of offences, which is the manner by which insiders are usually apprehended in the US by the SEC.

- There should be an obligation on insiders and controlling shareholders to file returns on a regular basis with the body referred to above of their share transactions in that company.
- A violation of the section creating the offence should also give rise to civil remedies, and this should be especially stated in the statute.
- The existing common law remedies should remain intact.
- The common law remedies should be buttressed by a right in favour of the company to disgorge insider trading profits in short swing transactions along the lines of Section 16b in the US.

- There should be an obligation on companies to make prompt disclosure of “tire” information.
Arrests: Coetsee asks public to get involved

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. — The public should become more involved in the prevention of crime and the apprehension of criminals, the Minister of Justice, Mr Kobie Coetsee, said yesterday.

Speaking in the Second Reading debate on the Criminal Procedure Amendment Bill, he said the public should play a greater role in maintaining law and order and should be made aware of their rights of arrest.

In terms of the Bill, he said, a private person could now arrest offenders who committed public violence and malicious damage to property because these offences would now fall under Schedule 1 of the Criminal Procedure Act.

In terms of the Act, violence could be used in arresting an offender suspected of a Schedule I offence and if death ensued, a finding of justified killing could be made. However, the onus was on the person making the arrest to prove that he had no other means of apprehending the offender.
Swoop on forex fraud suspects

PRETORIA. — The Reserve Bank invoked for the first time last night a newly proclaimed exchange-control regulation to seize several million rand and properties allegedly accrued through irregular transactions by former senior African Bank employees.

The bank gave notice in a special edition of the Government Gazette that the monies and properties, allegedly gained through irregular foreign-exchange transactions, were to be forfeited to the State.

The former employees named in the Gazette are Mr Alan Young, Mr Henry Alexander Harper, Mr Arthur Edward Ferreira and Mr Young’s wife, Mrs Judy Roma Young.

Monies credited to two close corporations are also to be forfeited. The notices are of immediate effect and the monies and proceeds from the auctioning of the properties are to be deposited into the State Revenue Fund.

The bank’s action follows alleged acts of fraud and contraventions of the exchange-control regulations, whereby financial rands were bought but allegedly paid for with commercial rands.

Mr Young, Mr Harper and Mr Ferreira are to face charges in the Rand Supreme Court on August 17 in a trial that may last six to eight weeks.

The Trust Bank of Africa Ltd lost its authority to operate as a foreign-exchange dealer in the wake of the affair.

Its former managing director, Mr Moses Mobane, was also to be charged but died recently. The Reserve Bank may take similar action against his estate.

According to last night’s gazette, the following sums of monies — deposited in accounts at the Commissioner St, Johannesburg, branch of the African Bank — and properties are to be forfeited to the State:

- R377 762.07 plus interest, accredited to Mr Young, 36, and a lot held by him in Florida Park;
- R409 867.36 plus interest, accredited to Mr Harper, 43, two lots held by him in Westdene and Fairlakes, and two half-shares registered in his and his wife Rita’s names — in two Sections of Bronze Paradise at Leisure Bay;
- R2 176 271.98 plus interest, accredited to Mr Ferreira, 40, and two lots, at Glenvista Ext 5, and Gerdview;
- Two half-shares held by Mrs Young in the same two sections of Bronze Paradise as held by Mr and Mrs Harper;
- R1 006 565.09 plus interest, accredited to Afek close corporation; and
- RS 814 410.16 plus interest, accredited to Young and Harper Investments close corporation.

Sepa
African Bank 'fraud': State to seize millions

The Argus Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG. — Some former African Bank employees are to forfeit properties and a total of nearly R10-million in cash to the Reserve Bank after a special Government Gazette announcement that strict exchange control regulations were to be invoked.

The cash and properties were allegedly gained through irregular transactions by former employees.

Four former African Bank employees, Mr Alan Young, 36, of Florida Park, his wife Mrs Judy Rona Young, Mr Henry Alexander Harper, 43, of Fairland and Mr Arthur Edward Ferreira, 40, of Glenvista, Johannesburg, are named in the Gazette.

The cash and the proceeds from auctioning of properties will be deposited in the State revenue fund.

The Reserve Bank action follows alleged acts of fraud and contraventions of the exchange control regulations, whereby financial rands were bought but payment allegedly made with commercial rands.

Mr Young, Mr Harper and Mr Ferreira are to face charges in the Rand Supreme Court on August 17 in a trial which may last six to eight weeks.

Former managing director of African Bank Mr Moses Mobane was also going to be charged but he has died.

According to the Gazette, nearly R10-million is deposited in accounts at the Commissioner St, Johannesburg, branch of the African Bank, and the properties are in Westdene, Fairland, Florida Park, Leisure Bay, Glenvista and Gerdview.
Swazi police recover SA cars

PRETORIA: More than 50 cars, worth almost a million rand, stolen in South Africa and recovered in Swaziland by the Royal Swazi Police, were handed to insurance companies and private owners at the Oshoek border post yesterday.

The Commissioner of the Royal Swazi Police and South Africa’s CID chief, Lt-Gen S H Schutte, agreed that successes of this nature, not the first in the ongoing fight against crime, were possible only when mutual co-operation and trust existed. — Sapa
Mixed areas 'do not foster crime'

Post Correspondent

Johannesburg — There is no automatic link between crime and black people moving into "mixed" areas, according to a study conducted by the South African Institute of Race Relations.

The study — _Residential Integration: A Recipe for Crime?_ — is the result of an analysis of the official crime statistics of 13 police stations on the Reef.

The analysis shows that while some grey areas have experienced crime increases, these are, in some cases, lower than the increase in crime in segregated areas of affluent suburbs.

"Moreover, when crime is considered in proportion to population, the rates for specific crimes in racially mixed areas are in many cases lower than in segregated suburbs," the study says.

Looking at murder statistics, it reports that the Hillbrow police station recorded the biggest increase between 1984 and 1986.

Analysing the incidence of crime in relation to size of population, the study found that the number of murders per 10 000 people living in Hillbrow (five) was only slightly higher than the figure in suburbs covered by the Norwood police station (four). It was substantially lower than the number of murders per 10 000 people (19) covered by the Mondeor police station.

With regard to assault with intent to do grievous bodily harm, the institute study found that people were more likely to be assaulted in the Mondeor and Jeppe areas than in Hillbrow.

Turning to robberies, there was a 166% increase in the white suburbs in the area of jurisdiction of the Lombardy East police station, a 52% increase in the Norwood area, and a 26% increase in Hillbrow.

The study says: "The reason for the Lombardy East station's high recorded rate is almost certainly its proximity to Alexandra township, where poverty is rife.

"This suggests that the proximity of a relatively affluent white area to a poor black one is a far greater recipe for crime than residential integration."
Coega farmer tells court about shots fired at him

Court Reporter
A COEGA farmer, whose daily early morning Bible reading was disturbed by gunfire, told the PE Regional Court today that he was surprised he had not been struck because the trajectory of the first bullet was in line with his head.

Mr John Terence van der Riet, 56, was testifying at the trial of Mr Kholile Lindile Mhali, 34, and Mr Mzwandile Maranti, 30, who are charged with attempting to murder Mr Van der Riet at his homestead on the farm, Melville, in the Coega district on Tuesday, February 2.

They are also charged with illegal possession of a firearm and ammunition.

Mr Mhali pleaded not guilty to all the charges.

Mr Maranti, who lived on Mr Van der Riet’s farm, pleaded not guilty to the first three charges, but guilty to conspiracy to kill Mr Van der Riet.

He admitted that he and Mr Mhali had discussed a plot to murder Mr Van der Riet.

He said he had heard that the “comrades” burnt people to death, but Mr Mhali had suggested that he would shoot Mr Van der Riet. Mr Maranti said he did not know where Mr Mhali had got the firearm.

Mr Maranti said he was at his home when Mr Mhali fired shots at Mr Van der Riet.

His plea was not accepted by the State and the court entered a plea of not guilty to all counts.

Mr Van der Riet said he was sitting in his bedroom reading a Bible when he heard an explosion at 8.30am. He said he had been his daily custom to read the Bible before he started work.

He said the explosion shocked him and he was stunned and did not move. He was sitting directly opposite a window and saw a man standing behind a bush. The man had a gun in his hand and it was pointed at him.

Mr Van der Riet said more shots were fired and he got out of the gunman’s line of fire. He went to his telephone and contacted the Swartkop Police Station.

He said his son, who worked at the police station, thought he was joking when he reported the shooting.

Mr Van der Riet said he alerted a farming neighbour, Mr Ferreira, who operated the farmer’s citizen band radio. Within minutes a contingent of SAP members were on the farm and a search for the gunman ensued.

He said the gunman was apprehended by his farming neighbours and brought back to his farm. He identified Mr Mhali as his would-be assassin.

Mr Van der Riet said he was most surprised he had not been struck by the first shot because the bullet’s trajectory was in line with his head.

(Proceeding)
Mr A W Moling was on the Bench. Mr H Bence appeared for the State. The two accused were not represented.
Clampdown to net SA R500m a year

Political Staff

THE government's clampdown on a widespread fuel racket in which an unnamed operator evaded tax amounting to R2.3 million over two years, will net the exchequer an extra R500 million a year.

Figures were released yesterday by the Deputy Minister of Finance, Mr Kent Durr, at a press conference with the Deputy Minister of Economic Affairs and Technology, Mr George Bartlett, to announce new petrol prices and a new system of collecting levies and calculating prices.

Mr Durr said some of the tax evaders would be prosecuted but the government had been hampered by loopholes in the law. The government also had information on other evaders who were being closely watched.

Certain diesel consumers in the agricultural, fishing and other industries have been exempt from paying certain levies and have been buying low-cost stocks and selling them for more than they had paid but for less than other consumers would normally pay.

In future, consumers who enjoy a rebate will have to pay the full levies and tax on what they buy and then claim a refund from the government.

Asked what was to stop the illegal operators from continuing the racket simply by reclaiming their levies, Mr Durr said the government had statistics on all people who were entitled to a rebate and their consumption would be watched.

One of the operators had avoided paying R98 947 in excise duties alone which if other levies had been included would have cost the state in the region of about R500 000 a year.

Other large-scale evasions over two years were R286 223, R436 455 and R74 103.

Mr Durr said that as from July 1 the levies for the Road Fund, Central Energy Fund, MVA (Third Party) and GST would be consolidated into one fuel levy on petrol and diesel to avoid evasions.
South African retailers expect to lose R800-m

Shopping this year

The country's economic growth is expected to remain sluggish in 2014, according to the latest ABSA business confidence survey. The survey, which is conducted quarterly, found that sentiment among businesses is still low due to high inflation, weak consumer spending and uncertainty about the country's future economic prospects.

The survey also found that the manufacturing sector is particularly pessimistic, with 75% of respondents expecting a decline in output over the next year. The services sector, which includes retailing, also has a negative outlook, with 60% of respondents expecting a decrease in sales.

Despite these challenges, retailers are planning to invest in new stores and expansion. According to a recent report by Property, 40% of respondents said they plan to open new stores in the next year, while 30% said they will focus on expanding existing ones.

Retailers are also increasing their focus on technology, with 25% of respondents saying they will invest in new IT systems to improve efficiency and customer experience.

Overall, the survey indicates that South African retailers are facing a tough environment in 2014, but they are taking steps to adapt and innovate to overcome these challenges.
Watson to give evidence shortly

Post Reporter

MR. RONNIE WATSON, believed to be in protective custody in Botswana — even his family do not know his exact whereabouts — is due to give evidence shortly when the man alleged to have attempted to kill him comes to trial.

A date has been set for the trial of Mr. Steve Burnett, 31-year-old British resident of South Africa alleged to have been involved in an attempt to kill Mr. Watson, a Port Elizabeth businessman, in a Gaberone hotel in May.

Mr. Burnett is said to be a former member of the crack British army unit, the SAS.

Mr. Burnett is being held on a charge of attempted murder. The trial is due to take place on July 13 and is scheduled to last three days.

Earlier today, Mr. Gavin Watson confirmed the trial was set for July 13. He said his brother had made telephonic contact with the family two days ago, when he assured the family he was in well and in good spirits.

Mr. Watson said that although he did not know his brother’s exact whereabouts, he believed he was in Botswana and was being kept in protective custody by the Botswana police.

He said Ronnie did not want to say over the phone where he was, because he thought some of the Watson phones could be bugged.

“He has also had information that there are various other people around who are out to get him. This has all been pretty traumatic for him,” Mr. Watson said.

Mr. Ronnie Watson is to make his “appearance” on July 10.
Call to the elderly to 'look to their own security'

Staff Reporter

ENTRY without force accounted for 65% of this year's criminal attacks on the elderly throughout South Africa, according to startling new statistics from the National Council for the Aged (NCA).

Making a strong call to elderly people to look to their own security, Mr Syd Eckley, NCA director, said yesterday the statistics showed that in 81 of 124 attacks on the aged from January to June this year, criminals had gained easy access to the homes of their victims.

"In 34% of cases doors were not locked, in almost 50% windows without burglar proofing were open, in 12% the resident opened the door in answer to a knock and in 3% the resident opened the door after being told a story by the person outside," he said.

In the 97 attacks, 27 people were murdered, 27 received severe injuries, 18 women were raped and 25 people were robbed.

Full support

Mr Eckley was responding to this week's announcement of a police register of old-age homes and lonely elderly people which would allow patrols to give special attention to homes where the elderly were particularly vulnerable.

"This is a very good thing and we give it our full support, but people must realize that having their names on a list doesn't mean they are automatically protected from danger. The police cannot solve the problem.

"Too many people are not security-conscious, as is shown by these latest statistics."

He said the statistics showed that 74% of attacks had taken place outside the homes of the elderly and 60% had taken place during the day.

People should look at their properties and eliminate problem areas. "The government can help in this regard by waiving the tax on security items for the elderly and by subsidizing poorer people."

Other security suggestions were to acquire a good watchdog; keep the police flying squad number — 10111 — near the telephone, and keep a whistle or siren in the home.

☐ The Cape Times, together with Gray Security Services, has launched Secure-Age.

Senior citizens can write with their queries or problems about security to SECURE-AGE, c/o The News Editor, Cape Times, PO Box 11, Cape Town, 8000. Queries will be answered free of charge.
Insurance fraud growing

MORE "than a million" crimes will be committed this year, and the insurance industry will "pay out more than R600m in claims," it emerged at an insurance fraud seminar yesterday.

Crime increased by 50% last year, the Johannesburg Chamber of Commerce (JCC) said, but the SAP yesterday strongly denied the claim.

Fraud contributed little to this increase in percentage terms, rising 20% from 1984 and 11% from 1985, but in a big way in rand terms, as it involved intricate schemes and large amounts.

Insurance fraud increased along with other types of fraud — with inflated claims becoming a major area of cost concern for insurers.

Almost all claims were inflated last year, V. Lewis & Co. loss adjuster Victor Lewis told delegates to the JCC's "Insurance fraud: how much is it costing you?" seminar in Johannesburg.

Almost 80% of fires his company investigated had been set deliberately.

"Blakex" Swart of the International Association of Credit Card Investigators said credit card fraud more than doubled to 134 cases between 1983 and 1986.

More than 40% of the cards had been used at specialist places such as car rental firms and liquor and hardware stores, 25% at petrol stations, 16% at supermarkets, 14% at department stores and 7% at clothing stores.

The panel of speakers concluded fraud was a significant factor in pushing up premiums, thus increasing pressure on the insured public.
SA crime rate in 'dramatic' decline

By CHRIS STEYN

SOUTH AFRICA's burgeoning crime rate, up alarmingly in recent years, has slowed dramatically in the past 18 months, according to statistics released last night by the office of the Minister of Law and Order, Mr Adriaan Vlok.

From a high of a 12.3% growth in January last year, crime has actually declined to a negative growth rate, his office says.

And, statistics say, the decreasing crime rate is largely due to a sharp drop in crime in the Western Cape.

Law and Order press spokesman Brigadier Leon Mellet said the decrease was the result of, among other factors, the introduction of special constables.

Another contributing factor, he said, was "greater co-operation" between the police and members of the public since the introduction of the emergency.

Brigadier Mellet said that burglaries at businesses in the Western Cape had decreased by 33% in the past six months, while burglaries at "white homes" had dropped by 26%.

Burglaries throughout the country had increased by only 0.5%.

Serious crime in the country had decreased by 1.0%, robbery by 5.5% and car theft by 8%.

Brigadier Mellet disclosed that during 1985 the crime rate increased by about 17% a month. In January last year that dropped to 12.5% and in March 1986 to 8.9%.

He said the downward trend continued from an increase of 0.7% in January this year to a drop of 1.0% in March.
670 tax cheques went astray

Own Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG. — Building societies and businesses which accepted stolen tax rebate cheques amounting to R233,000 will foot the bill at the Department of Inland Revenue.

Banks are protected by law from refunding “not negotiable” cheques deposited into accounts, as long as they do not make the cash available immediately.

The department’s chief director of operations, Mr Schalk Albertyn, said some of the money had already been received.

“Theft of tax rebate cheques is not a new thing. The issue is being blown up. Only 670 out of 252,000 cheques issued in May and June this year have gone astray,” Mr Albertyn said.

Building societies said they notified the police immediately once they had become aware of fraud. Inland Revenue did not normally contact the police.

Most of the cheques were in favour of black taxpayers.

Mr Albertyn said cheated taxpayers had to report to the department and if it was found that the signature on the back of their cheques had been forged, they were entitled to new cheques.

Some cheques went astray because they were posted to employers’ addresses and clerks pocketed them. Others were taken from mailboxes, he said.

He advised taxpayers to make sure their cheques went to a safe address.

To avoid future problems, the department is arranging to pay tax rebates directly into taxpayers’ bank accounts.
R135 000 fraud: SAA man guilty

Former South African Airways senior superintendent and advertising manager for the interior, Ignatius Petrus van Tonder (53), was yesterday convicted of defrauding SAA of R135 000 after flight tickets were irregularly issued over a 16-month period.

Van Tonder, of Summerfield Village, pleaded guilty in the Johannesburg Magistrate's Court to 22 counts of fraud committed between November 22 1985 and March 26 this year.

In giving evidence in mitigation of sentence, Van Tonder, who before his suspension had more than 36 years' service with the South African Transport Services, said that he was prepared to cash-in his entire pension contribution of R15 000 to repay the losses suffered by the SAA.

Van Tonder said he had put his R68 000 house, which has a R46 000 bond, up for sale. Employed since July 1 as a sales representative with a packaging company, he offered to repay the SAA in monthly instalments of R250.

During the commission of the crime, Van Tonder had the authority to issue flight tickets on behalf of SAA and had access to files reflecting exchange agreements entered into between SAA and various companies.

Van Tonder accepted part payment for the tickets — worth between R544 and R7266 each — which were purportedly issued in terms of these agreements and in exchange for the cost of services performed by these companies for SAA.

Magistrate Mr D S Jacobs heard that further prejudice might have been caused by the fraudulent scheme, allegedly committed with the assistance of another SAA employee, Mr R.R. Pre-
Insurers take tougher action over claims

The escalation of fraudulent and exaggerated claims during the past year has led insurers to take tougher action and bring more culprits before the law.

SA Insurance Association CE Rodney Schneeberger said insurers were increasingly laying charges against offenders, resulting in more court actions. Schneeberger said dubious claims always occurred on a higher basis in times of economic hardship and more attention was now being paid to the validity of claims received.

More assiduous checking was being undertaken by insurers, who were also looking for greater participation from the insured, who were expected to take greater protective and preventive measures.

Commercial Union MD Bill Rutherford said there had been a substantial increase in fraudulent and inflated claims, but added numerous claims were exaggerated, as people often believed they were entering a bargaining position when submitting a claim. That abuse was then built into premiums.

Rutherford said: "Insurance is based on good faith and, sadly, that seems to be disappearing." He said legal action was taken in blatant cases, although he believed insurers were now keen to set examples and were, therefore, taking more cases to court.

Mutual & Federal GM Bunny Attree confirmed that the incidence of suspect claims had increased during the past 12 months.
By CLARE HARPER

POLICE have made five arrests following lengthy investigations into Unemployment Insurance Fund (UIF) cheque thefts.

A police spokeswoman for the Western Cape, Lieutenant Denise Benson, said the remainder of the initial 40 cases of stolen or fraudulently cashed cheques were still being investigated by the fraud branch.

Police have not yet established how the UIF cheques were intercepted.

Mr Joseph Nkomza of Gugulethu is being held in custody following his appearance on charges of fraud in the Wynberg Magistrate's Court last week.

The hearing was postponed until July 20.

Mr Patrick Olfant, Mr Kenneth Baardman and Mr Sidima Ngcuna, all of Langa, will appear on possible charges of fraud in the Wynberg Magistrate's Court on July 17.

At an earlier hearing on July 10, the men were not asked to plea. Mr Olfant and Mr Baardman were released on bail while Mr Ngcuna was held in custody.

Mr Stanley Boom, 25, of Langa will face possible fraud charges in the Athlone Magistrate's Court on July 20.

He is being held in police custody.
SAA may lose R1,5m in ticket fraud

DANIEL SIMON

IRREGULAR issuing of flight tickets over a period of more than one year could cost SAA R1,5m, a senior policeman said yesterday.

Deputy Commissioner of the Transport Branch, Brigadier Roelf van Heerden, said yesterday a number of people had already been arrested and charged with fraud but investigations were still continuing.

Van Heerden said more people were involved but they had not yet been arrested and charged.

Sentenced

Senior SAA superintendent and advertising manager, Ignatius Petrus van Tonder, was sentenced this week to ten years for his part in defrauding SAA of R135 000 on 32 counts of irregularly issuing flight tickets over a 16-month period.

After a separation of trials, alleged accomplice, Reuben Robert Pretorius had his case postponed to August 26 for trial.

Four other people who have been arrested and charged with fraud, are out on bail. They are all scheduled to appear in court in the coming...
How men score on rape

Attitudes must change
One's guilty of abuse

Weirdo's not only

Sexual

Abuse

In the spirit of social justice, the perpetrator is known to the victim.

As part of our school's policy, we advocate open and equal opportunities for all students. This is particularly important when it comes to addressing issues related to sexual abuse. Our school is committed to creating a safe and supportive environment for all students, where they can learn and grow without fear of harassment or discrimination.

In the spirit of social justice, the perpetrator is known to the victim.
Soon after exposure of tax rebates thefts

BLUE CARD RACKET

Unemployed go hungry as crooks cash cheques

ANOTHER Government body — the Department of Manpower and Public Works — has been hit by the unauthorised cheque cashing racket which is causing a great deal of concern in the country.

The racket, which is also believed to date back several months, is resulting in scores of unemployed people throughout the country going hungry as unemployment relief cheques are being intercepted and cashed by unauthorised people.

Benefits of less than R300 are paid out weekly at various labour bureaux while those of R600 or more are sent to the beneficiaries' addresses through the post.

A spokesman for the Department of Manpower and Public Works in Pretoria confirmed several cheques had been stolen and cashed by unknown people.

He said the department had been going on for a long time.

By SY MAKARINGE

The spokesman was not at the time of going to press, a position to give further details.

The racket came to light after the spokesman last week revealed that more than R13,000 in tax rebates went to 670 "black taxpayers" disappeared in May and June this year.

Benefits

A Sororo woman, Mrs. Nqubutho Lalevo, applied for her benefits when she went on maternity leave early last year. She was later told that a cheque of R300 would be due to her in November last year.

After several months...

To Page 2

CONSULATE

Famous for their... unvarying quality

Smoking — enjoy the best.

Superb skill in blending.

The pleasure of smoking.

A really fine cigarette.

P.T.O
of waiting, Mrs. Lavisa and her husband, Mr. Xolisa Lavisa, went to the Johannesburg offices of the department to inquire why the cheque had not been sent to their home.

"They checked their records and found that the cheque had been 'cashed by someone' at Diepkloof. We then applied for a duplicate cheque which we luckily received in May this year," she said.

Our informants say Mrs. Lavisa's case was just a drop in the ocean. Scores of unemployed people went hungry for several months when their Unemployment Insurance Fund cheques went astray.

Mr. Lavisa said: "Just imagine what would have happened if my wife did not have another source of income during her maternity leave. Many people are not so lucky. There must be hundreds of them starving because their benefits are going into wrong hands."

Something must be done immediately to sort out this mess, he said.

A spokesman for the Department of Posts and Telecommunications in Pretoria said chances of the department's employees tampering with mail were almost non-existent as the offence carried a heavy fine.

He said one of the conditions of employment at the Post Office was that an employee would not tamper with mail.
Spate of UIF cheque thefts is revealed

FIONA COLLINS

A SPATE of thefts — and subsequent fraudulent cashing — of unemployment benefit cheques has erupted.

The thefts follow a similar racket which saw the illegal cashing of more than 600 tax rebate cheques.

Manpower and Public Works director Dennis van der Walt confirmed the outbreak of unauthorised cheque cashing.

"What is happening is that government certified mail is being intercepted, either by someone living at the address, or someone close to the family who knows the cheque is coming."

"While we try to accommodate everybody, especially in the case of illness, we are now going to request that people come in to our offices in person to collect their cheques."

However, unemployment insurance commissioner Jack Scheepers said his department had not received any complaints.

He added: "Should the beneficiaries not receive their cheques, they should contact the nearest department immediately, and only then will we be able to investigate the matter."

He said the Manpower Department paid out about R33m a month and dealt with about 120 000 beneficiaries throughout SA.

"The moment a cheque is returned in suspicious circumstances by a bank or institution, the police are called in to investigate."

Normal departmental procedure allows for benefits of less than R600 to be paid out in cash at various labour bureaux, while those of R600 or more are sent to the beneficiaries' addresses through the post.

Political comment in this issue by Ken Owen. Newsstills by Neil Jacobsohn. Headlines and sub-editing by Michael Allwright. All of Times Media Ltd. 11 Diagonal Street, Johannesburg.
Attacks on elderly, not organised,

Unemployment is party to blame, says Murder and Robbery Unit's new chief

The Star Thursday July 23 1987
Shop theft still high; more arrests

By RAYMOND HILL

TOUGHER security measures at most shops have done little to curb shoplifting — but more culprits are being caught.

A survey of Port Elizabeth stores this week indicated that in the presence of additional security staff, businessmen are still suffering heavy losses and some are finding that things are worse now than the usual peak period at Christmas.

However, nimble-fingered “customers” still get away with goods amounting to thousands of rands annually.

Warning signs of being jilted if caught even appear in the smallest boutiques and pharmacies.

But the thieves — some operating in gangs — find shoplifting a rewarding business and defy the risk of imprisonment.

Managers interviewed this week said that men, women and schoolchildren from all walks of life try to outsmart them and staff members by leaving the premises without paying for items.

Other spokesmen said additional security officials had to be recruited at great cost to their company, resulting in better control of the problem.

They were reluctant to disclose exact figures of their losses, but said they amounted to thousands of rands a year.

According to Mr I Stevens, Eastern Cape regional manager of Grand Bazaars, the shoplifting problem was “critical” at his company’s four Algoa Bay branches.

“It’s worse now than at Christmas. We make arrests daily. Some of the culprits operate in gangs. Women are the main offenders,” he said.

And it’s not only basic items that get stolen. In the past six months 59 steam irons had been stolen from the company’s branches.

Mr A Shaw, Eastern Cape regional manager of Checkers supermarkets, also complained about the daily occurrence of shoplifting at his company’s 16 local branches.

“Shoplifting is an ongoing problem, although I cannot say exactly how much the losses amount to. We apprehend people daily.”

More warning signs and extra mirrors were being provided in the stores.

The store’s policy was not to prosecute juvenile offenders.

According to Checkers Hyperstore’s security manager, Mr Tom Ackerman, the shoplifting problem had improved “probably because the severe penalties serve as a deterrent”.

Mr Terry Carroll, general manager of Pick’ n Pay supermarkets in the Eastern Cape, said more culprits were being apprehended because security measures had been “stepped up” considerably.

Shoplifters included men, women and children and items such as irons and hairdryers were popular “targets”, he said.

Mr Jacques van der Merwe, Eastern Cape area manager of Edgars, said that although shoplifting was still a problem, security staff at all branches had given more attention to the matter, and it was not too serious.

SA Police press liaison officer Captain Peet Grobler said shoplifters were more active on Friday afternoons and Saturday mornings.
Neighbourhood watch scheme
delayed by apathy

BY JOHANN NEL
Crime Reporter

MORE than 60% of
Amsterdamhoek, Blue-
water Bay and Swartkops
residents who have been
invited to join the area's
neighbourhood watch
scheme have not yet bolith-
ered to respond, the chair-
man of the scheme in the
area, Mr C M Logie, said
today.

Mr Logie said a large
number of circulated
enrolment forms, spon-
sored by the SA Police,
have been sent to resi-
dents in the area in an
attempt to get residents
enthusiastic about the
scheme.

To date only about one
third of these forms have
been completed and re-
turned. This situation has
considerably delayed the
progress of the scheme,
which many residents
want to see operating to
its full capacity as soon as
possible.

"Our main concern is
that residents in our area
may become complacent
about the crime situation
here.

"The police would wel-
come information from
anyone seeing someone or
something suspicious. We
have already called them
on a few occasions, and
they were on the scene
within minutes," Mr Lo-
gie said.

The area has been
divided into three sec-
tions. Section A covers the
area between the cafe
near the Swartkops police
station to the end of the
"Flats".

Section B stretches
from the "Flats" along the
river to Tipper's Creek.

Section C covers the area
from Tipper's Creek to
the Settlers Bridge.

Each section has com-
mmittee members as sec-
tion commanders who
will be in overall control
of the direction and move-
ment of the members, and
for the dissemination of
information.

The section command-
ers will also be in total
control of the organisa-
tion in their areas. They
will decide on the policy
and the execution thereof
in their areas.

This includes the estab-
lishment of "safe houses"
and patrols.

Mr Logie said the at-
tention of the police had
been drawn to three
"weak spots" in the area
during the last monthly
meeting.

These were The Poop,
which had attracted nu-
merous vagrants since it
was destroyed by fire; the
fort on the hill, which was
occupied by vagrants on a
continuous basis, and the
Aloes Reserve, which was
"home" for numerous
vagrants.

"We are now in the pro-
cess of establishing safe
houses in the area. Sign
boards will be erected at
these houses so they can
be recognised as such by
anyone, particularly
women and children in
need of help," he said.
R26 000 snatch in Uitenhage

Weekend Post Reporter

ARMED robbers got away with R26,000, takings from a Uitenhage bottle store, last night.

And in Port Elizabeth a woman was also robbed at gunpoint of R500 at a butchery in Gelvandale.

The robbery in Uitenhage took place at 7.15pm at the Jubilee Hotel when Mr Ivan Smallbone walked with the R26 000 in a cardboard box from the office to the main building of the hotel.

He was walking with two friends when two men wearing balaclavas approached him, Capt Kobus Jonker, acting head of the East Cape Murder and Robbery Squad, said today.

Both men were armed with pistols. "They told Mr Smallbone to stop. Then three men came from behind and grabbed the money."

The five men made a get-away in a red Golf.

The registration number was noted, but police investigation revealed that the car had false number plates. It is presumed it was a stolen car.

Another stolen car was apparently used in the Gelvandale robbery at 7.30pm yesterday.

Mrs Asma Manan, 33, was robbed of her handbag containing R500 as she was locking up Manan's Butchery and Fisheries in Goldenhuis Street, Gelvandale.

"As she came out of the shop a man standing nearby fired a shot in her direction. Another man then came up to her and grabbed her handbag," Capt Jonker said.

The men made off in a Ford Granada which also had false number plates.
Nicro give former convicts a break

Dispatch Reporter

EAST LONDON — Research in the United Kingdom has shown that ex-convicts who have been rehabilitated and given a job for a year rarely commit an offence, especially against an employer, the vice chairman of the South African National Institute for Crime Prevention and the Rehabilitation of Offenders (NICRO), Mr John Carter, said here yesterday.

Speaking at Nicro’s annual meeting, Mr Carter urged personnel managers, employers and government officials to help with the plight of the rehabilitated.

He said it was very important that a former offender get a stable job “as work is most therapeutic in helping them to regain the dignity they may have lost,” he said.

“After an ex-convict returns to society, it is important that he or she is assimilated as quickly as possible, because if they are not, it is possible that they could turn to alcohol or their old ways.

“Rehabilitation, in its essence, also prevents crime,” he said, adding that once a former offender had been completely assimilated into society he or she tended not to commit any further crimes.”
Department acts to end UIF racket

By June Bearzi,
Star Line

The Department of Manpower is taking action to stamp out an Unemployment Insurance Fund (UIF) racket in which gangs are entering fictitious work records on blue cards to draw funds illegally.

Mr F Beyers, divisional inspector of labour at Johannesburg’s Department of Manpower, alerted his staff and launched a probe to establish how widespread the racket was, immediately after information was passed on to him by Star Line.

The money-making scam was revealed yesterday after a number of jobless came forward to say their UF74 contributors’ cards had been stamped so they could claim the illegal UIF payouts.

One of the informants who wished to remain anonymous for fear of reprisals said: “Gang members who demand a big slice of the UIF payouts are capitalising on the plight of the unemployed. It must be stopped.

“If the police start an investigation these people, who often simply cannot find work, could be faced with criminal charges.”

Card holders were also at risk when applying for jobs as the fake work records could be uncovered when the prospective employers checked with the companies the names of which were stamped on the cards, the source said.

Thousands of jobless are said to be involved. Gang members tout outside the Department of Manpower in Johannesburg.

They allegedly approach people lodging UIF claims and promise to arrange false entries to enable them to continue claiming when their legitimate payouts are exhausted.

Another informed source disclosed that one gang operated from a well-guarded property in Eldorado Park Ext 1.

“The premises are surrounded by high walls and a gate and no one can get in unless the gang knows them,” the source said.

The blue card racketeers use names of firms with large staff turnovers. Sasol 1, 2 and 3, which employ 35,000 people countrywide, and Hall Longmore, Cyclops Engineering and International Combustion stamps have been used on cards.
their syndicate — police

Many unwittingly helped

Stefano Rock

Coppola

Airport

The ripping of a ticket from the machine

for information desk

police

in a partial operation of goods

by the airport

Deportment coffee

Luxury cars鬟tered and out.

unnoticed by anyone...
Crime rate up — SAP report

By ORMANDE POLLOK
Political Staff

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY. — A flagging economy and unemployment pushed up the crime rate last year, according to the police annual report for 1985-86.

The Narcotics Bureau has also reported increased seizure of dagga and other drugs in the same period.

"Unemployment, resulting from poor economic conditions, contributed to the increase in crimes, especially property-related crimes, such as housebreaking and theft," said the report.

Referring to a statistical breakdown of various crimes, the report also said: "It is significant that crimes such as robbery, housebreaking, fraud, forgery and theft have increased drastically.

"This can — as before — be attributed to the sustained deterioration in the economic situation and to large-scale unemployment."

The report also discloses massive increases in the value of diamonds, gold and cash seized in illegal deals.

A breakdown of the figures shows that shoplifting cases increased from 31,450 to 33,883, theft from 311,498 to 345,549, receiving stolen goods from 5,936 to 7,763 and fraud, forgery, unlawful appropriation and embezzlement from 4,724 to 6,761.

While the number of dagga cases and people arrested decreased, the police seized 1,521,657kg of the weed compared with 465,438kg the previous year. They also destroyed 612,000kg in cultivation, nearly twice as much as in the previous year.

They also seized 1,682,344 mandrax tablets compared with 472,018 the previous year.

The total value of diamonds, gold and cash seized rose from R3,6 million to R3,9 million.
DURBAN — About 150 women throughout South Africa reported their “experiences” to Rape Crisis counsellors by telephone at the weekend.

The two days “call-up” launched a month-long investigation nationwide by Rape Crisis.

In terms of a statement made in Durban today, the weekend’s “gathering of information” in Johannesburg, Cape Town, Durban and Grahamstown, revealed that 35% of the women were rape survivors, 30% had been beaten by their partners, 28% had been victims of childhood sex abuse, and 18% had been socially harassed.

The Rape Crisis report on the weekend research said “statistics showed that about half of all women suffer at least one of these forms of abuse”.

The response had been steady but slow, and confirmed the belief that “woman abuse is still a hidden crime”.

More than 50% of the women who had phoned in had never spoken about their experiences before. Two-thirds of them were sexually assaulted as children, and this was the first time they had told anyone of their experiences.

“Some women who telephones were unable to talk at all,” the report added.

Rape Crisis centres offer on-going advice and support for women, and the organisation “would like women to phone during the month to help build up a better picture of the abuse they suffer.”

Nearly 40 women “sat-in” on Rape Crisis telephones in Durban at the weekend, and they were contacted by about 25 complaints. Sapa
Public servants face fraud trials

Own Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG. — A spate of public sector fraud cases — involving about R20 million — have come under the spotlight this year.

Of this, allegations of fraud or corruption involving R18 million have been made against public servants.

The largest case involves an alleged cross-border customs racket. It relates to two Swazi officials who appeared before an Mbabane magistrate on May 4 charged with defrauding the governments of Swaziland, Botswana, Lesotho and South Africa of R13 million in customs duties.

Most of the cases have yet to be decided by courts.

The largest case involving a South African public servant came to the fore in July when a senior marketing official for Escom appeared in Pretoria Regional Court in connection with an alleged R2-million fraud involving claims of irregularities in the requisitioning, delivery and distribution of steel.

A number of SAA employees, including two top men, have been investigated for or charged with ticket fraud said to involve millions. The case is continuing.

A former Thokoza mayor appeared before a Johannesburg magistrate in April charged with misappropriating R1.3 million. In a related sequel, the estate of the township's former town clerk was provisionally sequestrated in the Rand Supreme Court this month amid allegations of a R650,000 misappropriation.

Escom has suspended four employees at Megawatt Park after allegations of petty cash and expense claims fraud involving R70,000.

Earlier this year, a Department of Community Development housing official appeared before a Johannesburg magistrate charged with fraudulently telling six people they could secure positions for them on waiting lists for R5,000 each.

The postmaster and a clerk of the Boshoff post office in the Free State have appeared in the local magistrate's court charged with R25,000 fraud involving drawings from postal savings accounts.

A Finance Department tax clerk was jailed for two years in June for receiving more than R19,000 for falsifying tax returns and accepting a R1,500 bribe.

Police this month launched an investigation into the disappearance of R30,000 from the coffers of the Mhluzi Town Council, Middelburg.

Last week, nine men — five of them Post Office employees — were arrested in Cape Town in connection with alleged theft of R80,000 in Unemployment Insurance Fund cheques. They are expected to appear in court today.
Police to probe factors hampering the war on crime

THE Commissioner of Police, General Hennie de Witt, is to head an in-depth investigation into factors hampering the police in protecting and serving the public.

The Minister of Law and Order, Mr Adriaan Vlok, announced the investigation during his department's budget debate yesterday.

He said funds and manpower available to the police, among other factors, would be looked into.

The investigation should be seen against the background of crime and security.

"I am of the opinion that the time has come for an in-depth, comprehensive look at these matters," said Mr Vlok.

General de Witt would investigate present and future security and crime-combating needs of the police.

He would make recommendations concerning the expansion, restructuring, functioning, training and management of the SAP with the goal of implementing the following statutory duties:

- Preventing crime;
- Maintaining law and order;
- Protecting internal security;
- Investigating offences; and
- Protecting life and property.

Interim reports could be presented when the investigating committee thought it necessary.

The committee would also be briefed to investigate any related matter and make recommendations. Mr Vlok said experts from the private sector and other fields would also be nominated for the committee. — Sapa.
High crime rate difficult to combat — Vlok
SRC to stay in UCT court

Education Reporter

THE University of Cape Town's SRC yesterday decided to continue participating in the University Court — overturning an earlier resolution — till the hearings involving two moderate students' movement members were finalized.

The SRC resolved on Wednesday night to withdraw its representation on the university court "until such a time as the court is restructured in consultation with the SRC and other interested parties".

The president of the SRC, Ms Carla Sutherland, said the SRC would reconsider withdrawing its representation once the MSM hearings were over.
By BRUCE CAMERON
Political Staff

THE Government has cracked down on sexual offences by issuing 'draft legislation that tightens laws and provides heavy penalties.

The Bills, published today, make a criminal offence of wife rape, cover prostitution and sexual offences against minors and give greater protection to victims of sexual offenders.

The notorious name of the main sex law, the Immorality Act, is to be changed to the Sexual Offences Act.

Fines which range from R200, R400 and from E600 to R1 000 have been increased respectively to R1 000, R4 000 and R6 000 to R12 000.

Boys under 14

The Bills, introduced by the Minister of Justice, Mr Robie Coetsee, are the Immorality Amendment Bill, the Law of Evidence and the Criminal Procedure Act Amendment Bill and the Criminal Law and the Criminal Procedure Act Amendment Bill.

The main provisions are:

- It will no longer be presumed that a boy under 14 is incapable of committing a sexual offence. Any boy may be liable to rape charges.
- Evidence of a victim of a sexual offence will automatically be heard in camera unless the victim chooses otherwise.
A NATIONAL union of former prisoners for crime prevention and re-adjustment was launched at the Ecumenical Centre in Durban this week.

The union, aimed at opening up avenues for ex-prisoners to return to normal life, is non-discriminatory and open to criminal and political ex-prisoners. The union's organiser, NGK Jola, said the plight of ex-prisoners needed urgent attention.

He said although they were active in Natal at present, the union had large support throughout South Africa and was planning to go national as soon as possible.

He said one of the major aims of the organisation was to organise jobs for ex-prisoners so the union would function as an employment agency.

"We have also introduced a literacy scheme for those who have not been to school and are training some of the ex-prisoners themselves to be literacy teachers," he said. Other aims of the union include:

- Enlightening ex-prisoners about their legal rights.
- Negotiating with welfare societies to accommodate ex-prisoners suffering from mental illnesses.
- Challenging unfair sentences imposed by the courts. - Concord News.
Ex-prisoners form a union

By CARMEL RICKARD,
Durban

A scene from a play performed by ex-prisoners at the launch of a union for ex-inmates

AFTER months of preparation, a new organisation for ex-prisoners was launched in Durban at the weekend with 500 members. According to a representative, the National Union of Ex-Prisoners for Crime Prevention and Re-adjustment (Nuep focar) differs from other, similar groups in that it is run by ex-prisoners themselves.

Says Nuep focar organizer Jerry Ngxola: “People are attracted to join us because they know the organisation is run by people with experience of prison — people fully aware of the problems that engulf a man or woman when they are released from jail. They are assured to know the organisation’s people have faced the same problems.” He says the biggest difficulties faced by ex-prisoners are unemployment and rejection by society and so these issues are being addressed by Nuep focar as a priority.

“Many people come out of prison with newly acquired skills in building and carpentry. We hope to persuade building contractors to take on some of our people. We want to help our members build up their dignity by educating them through literacy, basic law workshops and other training. We want to help society accept us.” Already Nuep focar has held workshops on issues like the causes of crime. Courses are also being run on organisational skills to help instill confidence in members.

Ngxola says the idea of the organisation occurred to him and some other inmates while in prison.

He came out of jail with a clear idea of what needed to be done and set about canvassing other ex-prisoners to find out whether they shared his vision.

Working through area committees, Nuep focar has been able to contact many people. “As ex-prisoners themselves the area co-ordinators know from the grapevine as soon as someone is released and they are also able to find out quite easily who in the community has ‘served time.’”

So far the organisation has been dealing mainly with criminal ex-prisoners as Ngxola and his committee believe that while some attention has been paid to the “politicals”, the other group are largely neglected.

“We will keep a low profile on political issues for the moment but some time in the future we will consider aligning ourselves with progressive organisations,” he says.

He says the organisation is already spreading and that people in other provinces have written to ask that branches be set up in their areas.

His hopes for the future: “That the organisation will continue to develop and draw in more members and that society will come to offer the hand of friendship to us.”
CRIME

The season to be careful

'Tis the season to be wary — tens of thousands of South Africans are busily packing up and leaving home on their annual holidays. Such departures mark the start of a festive period when everyone tries to like everyone else, but there is a darker side to the picture.

Roads become jammmed and thousands of people die in accidents. Pets are abandoned and the crime rate takes off. Last weekend in Soweto alone there were five murders, one attempted murder, five armed robberies, 13 muggings and 16 rapes. Ours is a violent society — and the homes left standing empty in the suburbs are particularly vulnerable. Many are left unprotected; others are left inadequately protected.

Experts say that while the South African public is becoming more crime-conscious, the problem cannot be overstated. Crime and punishment in SA is a multi-billion rand industry.

Crimes against the person and property tend to take the spotlight, but “paper crimes” such as fraud, forgery and embezzlement also take an enormous toll. Since commercial crime is generally non-violent, much of it goes undetected. And where it is discovered, employers often write it off to avoid the public eye.

Crime figures reach their peak at this time of year. The costs are many — to person, property, society itself. While the police have had success in combating some offences — particularly car theft — the problem is growing and has to be dealt with. And that too is costly.

But the deepest individual fear is exposure to, or experience of, a crime involving violence. Judging by the size of and growth in the R1 billion-plus security and alarm industries there is a fresh perception that such crimes are becoming more commonplace.

Take this scenario. Recently an armed robber lay dead on the floor of a café in Bellevue East. It was eight o'clock on a Saturday evening. It was raining outside. There were two police guards, but the ambulance had not arrived. The police and ambulance had been telephoned two hours before. This killing was not just a tragic loss of human life. It was also highly symbolic of a society that is being put to the siege by low economic growth, frustrated political wishes, the effects of sanctions, and most important, increasing unemployment.

In reflecting tough economic conditions, the Bellevue East café owner had not closed up shop while the would-be robber lay dead on the floor. So children — and those sensitive to dead people who have been killed by heavy calibre revolvers — could have walked straight into the scene. They did too.

As some indicator of the crime level, SA has the highest per capita prison population in the world. According to the stats, something like one out of every dozen South Africans is a criminal. Of course, a notable percentage of these crimes are for artificial statutory offences found under most apartheid laws.

But in 1985-1986, the Department of Justice recorded over 2m criminal cases; latest census figures suggest a population of about 30m. Excluding infants and those incapable of crime, and assuming criminals limit themselves to one crime per person, someone near to you is officially at least — a criminal.

So, to what extent is your life in danger? If you're leaving home for the festive season, what are the chances of coming back to a pillaged property? And what are the chances of you experiencing some kind of violence? Very good, according to the stats, although those available tend to be a little dated. Figures for the year to June 30 1986 show these reports to the SA Police (SAP):

- 15,190 murders and attempted murders;
- 14,975 cases of rape and attempted rape;
- 110,365 incidents of aggravated assault; and
- 45,935 cases of robbery.

These are graded as serious offences. Less serious transgressions of the law, such as infanticide, public violence, arson, housebreaking and shoplifting, total in the hundreds of thousands a year.

What is remarkable is that the trends show, for 1985-1986 at least, a general fall in criminal activity. For every 100,000 of population, crimes decreased for all violent crimes against the person — with the exception of murder and attempted murder. In this category, the rate per 100,000 of the population was 29.9 for 1967-1977, increasing substantially to 50.2 for 1985-1986.

The overall fall-off is no reason for complacency. Surveys in the US have shown that the actual rate of crimes against the person tends to be approximately twice the official rate. Particularly in the case of rape, the reasons are not difficult to grasp. So perhaps it is not surprising that contrary to official statistics, surveys in SA suggest that violent crime is on the increase.

A recent Human Sciences Research Council (HSRC) survey reveals that 57% of whites, 34% of Indians, 35% of coloureds and 61% of blacks are of the opinion that crime increased in their neighbourhood during 1985. When asked to what extent they con-
sider crime to be a problem in their community. 48% of whites, 65% of Indians, 69% of coloureds and 77% of blacks indicated that they consider crime to be a serious or very serious problem. All this changes people's attitude and behaviour.

Criminologists and other experts are unanimous that the incidence of crime acts as a negative influence on any society.

The HSRC survey (involving about 6000 people) also showed that:

☐ In the case of the theft of money or goods exceeding R100, 40% of whites, 18% of Indians, 19% of coloureds and 22% of blacks indicated that they were a close relative in their household had been a victim;
☐ For robbery involving violence, the figures were 2% of whites, 5% of Indians, 7% of coloureds and 8% of blacks;
☐ For aggravated assault, the figures were 2% of whites, 5% of Indians, 10% of coloureds and 20% of blacks.

The findings regarding rape were startling: 0.3% of whites, 0.3% of Indians, 2% of coloureds and 4% of blacks indicated that they or a close relative had been a victim.

This means that, for example, approximately one in every 25 black households had a member who had been the victim of rape.

And there is the cost of crime, which can be seen as two-sided. There is the cost to society of losing tangible things — like life, skills, productivity and possessions — and the psychological cost in traumatic crimes like rape.

Then there is the cost of finding criminals and bringing them to justice, giving them a fair trial and holding convicts in custody.

For 1987-1988, the budget for custody (prisons), justice and police totalled R2.8 billion (5.8% of the total Budget) and R760m more than a year before. According to the Department of Justice, the cost of housing a prisoner for a day — R2.04 in 1977 — rose to R8.82 in 1986. Using 1985-1986's prisoner population of 111,000, the cost for this year, allowing for a bit of inflation, but no extra prisoners, is well above R1 billion.

So crime is not only imposing a massive personal cost on South African society; it is also imposing a massive cost on the State. And that, if one needs reminding, is a cost for the taxpayer to bear.

The other kind of cost — damage to the body and property — can be insured against. In 1987, the estimated premium income of the short-term insurance industry stands at R2.5 billion. Crudely, that implies that if everything insured against was lost or destroyed, the losses would total R2.5 billion. Not all losses follow crimes: the Natal floods and the Mauritius Boeing disaster are included.

According to Rodney Schneeberger, of the SA Special Risks Insurance Association (Sasria) and the SA Insurance Association (Saia), the best barometer of crime in SA is car thefts. And to him, recent figures suggest that SAS has reached a turning point in crime — for the better.

Cars stolen increased by 57% from 1984’s 39,553 to 61,981 in 1986. Figures for 1987, to August, crudely annualised, seem to confirm that 1987’s total will be less than 60,000. And recoveries of vehicles by police have increased from last year’s 51% to almost 57% for the reported months this year.

"During 1986 and the early part of 1987," says Schneeberger, "the public, police and insurance industry agreed that crime had reached intolerable proportions. The situation could not longer be accepted." A plan of action was launched earlier this year.

Measures taken by joint Saia-SAP committees included:

☐ A computer committee for the exchange of important information;
☐ A legal committee to investigate miscellaneous issues, such as identification of stolen vehicles;
☐ "Teleassur" screening of information on SAIC’s Teledata; and
☐ A reward fund.

The latter has proven highly successful, often paying out R5,000 or more. Stolen vehicles have been traced to Maun in Botswana, New Zealand, Malawi, the UK, Mozambique and Antwerp, among other destinations.

Commercial crime also involves loss, though of a non-violent nature. In 1985-1986, 34,074 commercial-type crimes were reported. Put Goldberg’s Bruce Vermulen and Wiff Robinson feel that commercial crime is a growth area particularly in computers and foreign exchange.

By all accounts, tax evasion has reached epidemic proportions.

There is little, if any, moral repugnance associated with this statutory crime. The reasons are very complicated, but often echo perceptions in other areas of non-violent crime.

Says one thoughtful taxpayer: "My retailer may offer the lowest-priced groceries in town. But, going behind the scenes, I discover that the retailer is paying very little, if any, tax.

"Without question, if all taxes were paid honestly, I’d be paying less tax. That way, the R500 I save on groceries would total thousands in tax."

Perhaps the criminal involved in crimes of a violent nature follows a similar thought pattern.

But while the criminal mind will always be fascinating, we would prefer them to be confined to books, television and movie theaters. Too often they feature in everyday life. So lock up carefully, set a watch, make sure your insurance is up to date and have a nice day."
Laws to ensure that crime does not pay
'Inside jobs' by staff are a headache

Shoplifting to cost R200m this season

SHOPLIFTING over the festive season is set to cost retailers R200m countrywide — a quarter of the year's estimated total loss, says Johannesburg Chamber of Commerce public relations spokesman Ken Warren.

Adding to the retailers' headaches are the "inside jobs" committed by employees, which rocket over the festive season.

Warren said losses from shoplifting and shrinkage during the whole of 1987 could reach R800m. He said last year's predicted losses of R144m over the festive season had been reasonably accurate.

"Last year's figure was reasonably close to the mark."

With the drop in inflation, improved consumer spending and estimated retail sales of R46bn, we should be reasonably close again."

Checkers MD Clive Weil said the November-January period was by far the worst quarter when it came to stock loss, which ran into millions.

Weil said: "We have taken stock of the situation and stepped up security. By end of the year we expect to have over 8 000 shoplifting convictions."

"The man in the street is paying high prices to absorb the loss of stock from shoplifting, which is on the increase. Crime in SA has reached epidemic proportions."

Greaternman assistant manager Bea Swarts said the shoplifting problem was no worse than last year but that extra staff had been hired, and said:

"When we spot potential shoplifters, we refer them to a straight sales person. We work on a system of prevention."

A spokesman for a major retail chain said it was impossible to give a precise figures on the extent of shoplifting over the festive season.

"Shoplifting increases steadily as the festive season approaches and people come to shop."

A Witwatersrand police spokesman said precise figures for arrests in connection with shoplifting incidents were not immediately available.
One murder every hour last year

Political Staff

ONE person was murdered in South Africa every hour in the 12 months between March 1986 and February this year, according to statistics released by the Minister of Law and Order, Mr Adriaan Vlok, yesterday.

And, one housebreaking is reported every two-and-a-half minutes — only one-quarter are solved.

Replying to a written question from the MP for Springfield, Mr Mahmoud Rajab, the Minister said 8 806 murders were reported during the 12-month period of which 5 972 had been solved. The total for the previous year was 9 685 with 5 771 solved, while in the 1984/5 period there were 8 989 murders with 5 850 of them being solved.

The minister said that during the 1986/7 year there was an average of more than five robberies reported every day — 47 954 with 21 347 solved. This is marginally up on last year.

There was also a marked increase in the number of cases of rape. Nearly two rapes were reported every hour.

Of the 17 092 reported, 13 518 were solved. Last year's figures were 14 975 and 12 042.

A total of 208 325 housebreakings were reported to the police of which 52 070 were solved.

The previous year 197 400 housebreakings were reported and 48 995 were solved while in 1984/5 the figures were 166 812 and 45 006.

Some 65 975 cars were reported stolen during the 1986/7 year — more than seven an hour — of which 14 219 were recovered.

He said 114 341 serious assaults had been reported with 14 000 remaining unsolved. A serious assault is reported in South Africa about once every four-and-a-half minutes.

Overall the number of murders, robberies, rapes, housebreakings, stock thefts, serious assaults and motor vehicle thefts reported was 48 669. This is an average of about one every minute.
SAP opens dockets on 'cartels'

THE Competition Board has asked the police to investigate several companies suspected of market collusion and operating illegal cartels.

It is the first time the board has sought a prosecution under recent anti-cartel legislation. At least two of the companies under investigation are believed to be subsidiaries of major industrial groups.

Chairman Stefan Naude says the board has lost patience with companies continuing to resist the Maintenance and Promotion of Competition Act. "We have tried to be reasonable but now we are going to hit these people hard."

Act amendments gazetted in May last year outlawed five activities: setting of minimum or recommended re-sale prices, and collusive agreements among competitors on pricing, conditions of supply, market-sharing and tendering.

Since then, the Competition Board has granted dozens of temporary exemptions and a handful of permanent exemptions from certain of the regulations. But, says Naude, companies are still breaking the law. Economic Affairs and Technology Minister Danie Steyn warned recently that government patience was wearing thin.

"We know collusion and other illegal activities are going on surreptitiously. We have bent over backwards to help but it should not be taken as a sign of weakness. Now we've had enough," says Naude.

Naude, who leaves the Competition Board early next year to succeed Sarel du Plessis, director-general of Trade and Industry, says police have been asked to look at several alleged contraventions.

"The Commercial Branch is involved in two investigations now and there are likely to be more," he says. A Commercial Branch spokesman said he could not confirm or deny Naude's comments.

Naude would not identify the companies being investigated but sources say two are subsidiaries of major industrial groups.

If convicted, directors of companies

followed soon by regulation of architects, quantity surveyors, valuers and surveyors.

In line with last year's Competition Act amendments, the changes seek to end four main practices: restricted entry to a profession, work reservation, lack of price competition, and restrictive ethical codes.
Collusion by companies is of ‘alarming’ dimensions

Tough penalties face price fixers

By Michael Chester

Price-fixers have been threatened by the Department of Trade with the toughest crack-down to date with penalties of up to R100 000 in fines and five years’ jail unless they abandon their schemes.

The warning has been delivered by the Minister of Economic Affairs and Technology, Mr Danie Steyn, on the heels of investigations which revealed that collusion between companies engaged in price fixing had reached “alarming” dimensions.

He confirmed that the Competition Board had called in the Commercial Branch to investigate suspicions of price cartels among several companies.

He reminded businessmen that warnings were given several months ago that a firmer stance on price rigging was to be taken by the Competition Board, which, until now, had often made informal approaches to companies that contravened the Maintenance and Promotion of Competition Act.

The Minister made plain that there were five particular restrictive practices that were now under special attack:

- Resale price maintenance, when suppliers compelled retailers to fix prices.
- Price collusion, when suppliers set mutually agreed prices for their products or services.
- Collusion between competitors to agree on conditions over the supply of commodities or services such as with discounts or payment terms.
- Collusion between companies on who takes what slice of the market and in which geographical zone.
- Collusion when companies submitted tenders on the price of supplies or else agreed on who tendered for what.

"Until now, when contraventions have occurred, often out of ignorance, the parties have been approached informally," said Mr Steyn.

"But the stage has been reached where businessmen who continue with these practices, but have not been given official exemption, will have to bear the penal consequences.”
Union gives hope to social outcasts.

FROM FRANCIS RANGONO.
Crime by computer costing R142-m

By Craig Kotze,
Crime Reporter

Computer-related crime cost South Africa at least R142 million a year and the actual figure could be 'double this' as about 50 percent of such crimes were never reported, a national conference on computer crime was told in Johannesburg today.

"Most of these crimes were committed by people regarded as 'ideal employees' and by those in key positions," said Mr Chris Loch, a senior education lecturer and one of many academics, business men and policemen who addressed South Africa's first national computer crime conference held to promote company awareness.

The conference was hosted by the Afrikaans University.

"Mr. Loch said the development of computer technology was responsible for almost every company and organisation being vulnerable to computer crime.

"One of the greatest problems of employers today is the uncertainty about potential computer criminals," said Mr. Loch.

"The ideal computer criminal was highly intelligent and enjoyed challenges, was well-trained in management and professional skills, and was keen to learn.

Computer criminals usually stole huge amounts of money, although they were seldom involved in previous crimes.

"They often held a grudge against their company and only a few experienced financial problems," said Mr. Loch.

"Professor Basie van Solms, chairman of RAU's computer science department, said the answer to increasing computer crime lay in companies having a corporate security policy to safeguard money or information.

"He told the conference that companies could not afford to be ignorant of risk areas in their computer systems.

"In an era where micro-computers were increasingly used in companies, the security situation would worsen if no centralised control was present," he said.

"Managements have to accept responsibility and recognise that information is an important asset and money and people, said Professor van Solms."
No successful treatment for sex criminals, says psychiatrist

By Carina le Grange

There is no successful treatment for sexual offenders, a senior psychiatrist, Dr Mike Smith of Sterkfontein Hospital, says.

Serious concern has been expressed about the treatment and punishment of offenders such as Joshua Blignaut (58) who was convicted on a charge of culpable homicide after killing 13-year-old Malcolm Pretorius, and who had previously been convicted 24 times for sex crimes involving young boys.

Many psychiatrists and clinical psychologists consider treatment worthless.

"In a case like this most people assume there must be a treatment but no one has come up with a successful treatment at all. There is also not much evidence that any treatment does any good and there is no known obvious way to treat this problem," Dr Smith says.

He said although people in the helping professions would like to help, they "don't understand the problem".

"And if we imply there is something we can do, the courts would want it applied. There is no proof psychotherapy, for example, can help. And if we use drug therapy are we not only suppressing sexual urges or are we treating the problem?"

"Brain surgery has been used — also in South Africa — but we can't forecast exactly what the results will be and whether it will work. Castration — both physically and chemically — has also been done. But the sexual act is often only the symptom and not the cause. Aggression plays a big role."

Dr Smith, like his colleague Dr Isaac Berman and other psychiatrists spoken to, stressed that each case was different and that there could be no uniform approach. He also said while there was a similarity in the offence, the causes also differed.

Unisa criminologist Mrs Irma Labuschagne disagrees on the issue of rehabilitation, believing that long-term one-to-one psychotherapy is the answer.

"The fact that these offenders are not rehabilitated does not mean they cannot be rehabilitated. What they need is re-socialisation — to be made over again, as it were."

"I know the Prisons Department do their best and give it a lot of attention — but I am not sure we can afford this kind of therapy or facilities in our country," she says.

Mrs Labuschagne is vehemently opposed to drug treatment and surgery, saying that the kind of man who sexually abuses a child of the same sex usually has a very low self-concept. "It makes them feel many and better about themselves. But they can be rehabilitated if they are taught to understand their problem."

A psychiatrist from another major mental institution in the country, who cannot be named, also stressed that 'aggression played a role, that every case was different and that there was a dire need for treatment. But he said not much was being done about it in South Africa."

"People whose sexual preference is focused on children will not change. The offence is recurrent and the offender highly resistant to treatment as he is usually disturbed in other areas as well," she says.

The national director of the National Institute for Crime Prevention and Rehabilitation of Offenders (Nicro), Mr John Figg, says rehabilitation through psychotherapy and behaviour modification could depend on the individual but that we are looking here at a distinct personality disorder that is not amenable to treatment and in which the prognosis is very poor in most cases."

"In terms of punishment, we must look at containment. Prison is the right place in order to protect society."
Hi-tech fraud 'outpaces the law'

COMPUTER technology had advanced so fast that legislation could not keep pace with hi-tech fraud, a conference on computer crime was told yesterday.

Delegates were also told that computer-related crimes had cost SA about R142m a year — but the true amount could be double, as 50% of crimes were never reported.

Senior education lecturer Chris Loch said one of the greatest problems facing employers today was uncertainty about potential computer criminals.

Daniel Simon

Loch said the ideal computer criminal was highly intelligent, hard-working and keen to master computer systems and discover new techniques.

Computer crime would increase unless stronger security precautions were taken.

SAP Commercial Branch Major Sondre Oickers said few computer-related frauds were reported. He believed affected organisations feared publicity as this would expose possible flaws in their internal control systems.

At present, the laws regarding computer-related crimes were in "turbmoil" and this would remain so until the legislature or Appeal Court decided the issue.

RAU computer science department chairman Professor Basie von Solms warned company management to employ safeguards during the maintenance of existing software systems, as many opportunities for fraud existed during this period.
**ALGEMENE KENNISGEWING**

KENNISGEWING 758 VAN 1987
DEPARTEMENT VAN JUSTISIE

Die Wyssigingswetsontwerp op die Strafreg en die Strafproseswet [W105–87 (AS)], wat in die Bylae verskyn, is op 9 September 1987 by die Parlement ingediend en na 'n Gesamentlike Komitee van die Parlement vir ondersoek en verslag verwys. Die Wetsontwerp spruit voort uit die Suid-Afrikaanse Regskommissie se aanbevelings in sy verslag oor sy ondersoek na die vrou en geslagsmisadade in Suid-Afrika.

In ons reg kan 'n man nie vir die verkraging van 'n vrou vervolging word nie. Die Kommissie kom tot die gevolgtrekking dat die bestaande immunité van die man argaïs en onregverdig is en op ongelukke behandeling van die twee geslagte neerkom en beveel aan dat daar by wet voorsoening gemaak word dat 'n man vervolking kan word vir die verkraging van sy vrou, met dien verstande dat 'n vervolging nie ingestel word sonder 'n opdrag te dien effekte deur die Prokureur-generaal nie. Klousule 1 van die Wetsontwerp gee aan die aanbeveling gevolg.

Die ondervraging van 'n klaagster aangaande haar vorige seksuele ondervinding met die beskuldigde is altyd relevant en toelaatbaar. Die Kommissie beveel aan dat, ter wilte van verligting van die klaagster se trauma, wetgewing vrae aangaande vorige seksuele ondervindings met ander persone as die beskuldigde verbied, tensy daar in 'n aansoek in camera voor die voorsitende beample redes vir die toelaatbaarheid daarvan aangevoer word. Klousule 2 van die Wetsontwerp gee aan die aanbeveling gevolg.

Verskeie ander aanbevelings van die Suid-Afrikaanse Regskommissie voorspruitend uit bovemelde ondersoek soos beliggaam in die Wyssigingswetsontwerp op die Bewysreg en die Strafproseswet [W105–87 (AS)], is reeds deur die Parlement goedgekeur.

596—A

**GENERAL NOTICE**

NOTICE 758 OF 1987
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

The Criminal Law and the Criminal Procedure Act Amendment Bill [B106–87 (GA)], appearing in the Annexure, was submitted to Parliament on 9 September 1987 and referred to a Joint Committee of Parliament for inquiry and report. The Bill emanates from the recommendations made by the South African Law Commission in its report on its investigation regarding women and sexual offences in South Africa.

In our law a man cannot be prosecuted for the rape of his wife. The Commission came to the conclusion that the existing immunity of the husband was archaic and unjust and amounted to unequal treatment of the two sexes and recommended that it be provided by law that a husband may be prosecuted for the rape of his wife, provided that a prosecution should not be instituted without an instruction to that effect from the Attorney-General. Clause 1 of the Bill gives effect to this recommendation.

The questioning of a complainant about her previous sexual experience with the accused person is always relevant and admissible. The Commission recommends that, in order to alleviate the complainant's trauma, legislation should prohibit questions concerning previous sexual experience with persons other than the accused, unless grounds for its relevance are advanced in an application made in camera to the presiding officer. Clause 2 of the Bill gives effect to this recommendation.

Various other recommendations by the South African Law Commission arising from the above-mentioned investigation and embodied in the Law of Evidence and the Criminal Procedure Act Amendment Bill [B105–87 (GA)] have already been approved by Parliament.
Die Wysigingswetsonwerp op die Strafreg en die Strafproseswet, 1987, word hierby vir algemene inligting en kommentaar gepubliseer. Enige kommentaar of vertoe daaromtrent deur belanghebbendes moet nie later nie as 31 Desember 1987 skriflik by die Sekretaris van die Parlement, Postbus 15, Kaapstad, 8000, ingediend word.

Algemene verduidelikende nota:
[ ] Woorde in vet druk tussen vierkantige hakies dui skrappings uit die bestaande verordeninge aan.
[ ] Woorde met '/n volstreep daaronder dui invoegings in bestaande verordeninge aan.

BYLAE

KONSEPWETSONWERP

Om voorsiening te maak dat 'n man strafrigtelik aan
spreklik gehou kan word weens verkragting van sy
vrou; tot wysiging van die Strafproseswet, 1977, ten
einde die aanbieding van getuienis betreffende die
karakter van 'n vrouspersoon teenoor of in verband
met wie 'n misdryf van 'n seksuele aard gepleeg is,
verder te reel; en om vir bykomstigere aangeleenthede
voorsiening te maak.

Ingedien deur die Minister van Justisie

DAAR WORD BEPAAL deur die Staatspresident en die
Parlement van die Republiek van Suid-Afrika, soos volg:

Verkraging van vrou deur haar man

1. (1) Ondanks enige andersluidende bepaling van die
gemene reg kan 'n man strafrigtelik aanspreklik gehou
word weens verkragting van sy wettige vrou.

(2) 'n Vervolging word nie teen 'n man ingestel weens
verkraging of poging tot verkragting van sy wettige vrou
nie, behalwe in opdrag van die prokureur-generaal binne
wie se regsegebied die misdryf na bewering gepleeg is.

Vervanging van artikel 227 van Wet 51 van 1977

2. Artikel 227 van die Strafproseswet, 1977, word hierby
deur die volgende artikel vervang:

"Getuienis van karakter

227. (1) Getuienis betreffende die karakter van 'n
beskuldigde of betreffende die karakter van 'n vrouspersoon [op of ten opsigte van] teenoor of in verband met wie 'n misdryf van 'n onnoodlike aard gepleeg is, is,
behoudens die bepaling van subartikel (2), toelaatbaar
of ontoelaatbaar indien sodanige getuienis op die
dertieste dag van Mei 1961 toelaatbaar of ontoelaatbaar sou
geweet het.

(2) Getuienis betreffende geslagsgemeenskap deur of
enige seksuele ervaring van 'n vrouspersoon teenoor of
in verband met wie 'n misdryf van 'n seksuele aard
gepleeg is, behalwe geslagsgemeenskap of seksuele
ervaring met 'n beskuldigde in die betrokkene verrytinge,
word nie aangevoer nie en so 'n vrouspersoon word nie
aangaande sodanige gemeenskap of seksuele ervaring
onderwra nie, behalwe met verlof van die hof.

The Criminal Law and the Criminal Procedure Act
Amendment Bill, 1987, is hereby published for general
information and comment. Any comment or representations
by interested parties should be lodged in writing with the
Secretary to Parliament, P.O. Box 15, Cape Town, 8000,
not later than 31 December 1987.

General explanatory note:
[ ] Words in bold type in square brackets indicate
omissions from existing enactments.
[ ] Words underlined with a solid line indicate
insertions in existing enactments.

ANNEXURE

DRAFT BILL

To make provision that a man may be held criminally
responsible for raping his wife; to amend the Criminal
Procedure Act, 1977, so as to further regulate the
adducing of evidence relating to the character of a
female towards or in connection with whom any
offence of a sexual nature has been committed; and to
provide for matters incidental thereto.

Introduced by the Minister of Justice

BE IT ENACTED by the State President and the Parlia-
ment of the Republic of South Africa, as follows:

Rape of wife by her husband

1. (1) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained
in the common law, a man may be held criminally
responsible for raping his lawful wife.

(2) A prosecution shall not be instituted against a man for
the rape or attempted rape of his lawful wife, except on the
instructions of the attorney-general within whose area of
jurisdiction the offence is alleged to have been committed.

Substitution of section 227 of Act 51 of 1977

2. The following section is hereby substituted for section
227 of the Criminal Procedure Act, 1977:

"Evidence of character

227. (1) Evidence as to the character of an accused or
as to the character of any [woman upon or with regard
to] female towards or in connection with whom any
offence of an indecent nature has been committed, shall,
subject to the provisions of subsection (2), be admissible
or inadmissible if such evidence would have been
admissible or inadmissible on the thirtieth day of May,
1961.

(2) Evidence as to sexual intercourse by, or any sexual
experience of, any female towards or in connection with
whom any offence of a sexual nature has been
committed, other than sexual intercourse or sexual
experience with an accused in the proceedings in
question, shall not be adduced, and such female shall not be
questioned regarding such sexual intercourse or sexual
experience, except with the leave of the court.
By PATRICK COLLINGS

SOUTHERN AFRICA has been identified as the world's largest consumer of Mandrax.

The drug, banned in South Africa in 1976, is smuggled into the country from the Far East or Europe and has become the second most used drug in South Africa behind dagga.

Dr Sylvain de Miranda, director of the South African National Council on Alcoholism, told the Institute of Public Health congress in Pretoria this week that widespread consumption of "mood-changing" drugs was not surprising in a society where escapism was practised by young and old.

Dr De Miranda told the Cape Times that while the older generation tended to take the Mandrax tablet on its own to induce sleep, youngsters liked to mix the tablet with other drugs to experience a "twilight zone" sensation.

The most common way to take Mandrax was to smoke "white pipe", a mixture of dagga and crushed Mandrax tablets.

De Miranda said the "white pipe" was found almost exclusively in Southern Africa.

Mandrax is highly physically addictive, as opposed to being psychologically addictive.

"Should a person stop using Mandrax by itself, or as part of a cocktail, the withdrawal symptoms are very severe, normally causing the user to be violently ill."

Because Mandrax tablets are not manufactured in South Africa, supply does not always meet demand.

"This is when you get people taking advantage of the addicts and selling them homemade substitutes which contain such things as pool acid, but the addicts are so desperate or ignorant that they use this rubbish."
Police investigate Gold Rush

The Argus Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG. - Police are investigating Operation Hunger's Gold Rush as part of a national probe of competitions involving cash prizes.

Detectives from the John Vorster Square Narcotics Bureau were investigating whether the competitions contravened the Lotteries Act, a spokesman said.

This follows the battle in the Rand Supreme Court between the finalists in the Operation Hunger competition for the 1-million prize money.

Police opened a docket in terms of the Lotteries Act after detectives spoke to the legal representatives of Operation Hunger.

When completed, the docket will be handed to the chief public prosecutor for a decision, said the spokesman.

Police were also investigating smaller competitions - mainly run by schools - where cars and cash were offered as prizes, he added.
Police protection for aged promised

Political Staff

The police were taking all steps possible to ensure that elderly people were able to enjoy a full and peaceful existence, the Minister of Law and Order, Mr Adriaan Vlok, said yesterday.

Mr Vlok was addressing delegates at the congress of the Cape National Party on a motion requesting the government to give thorough consideration to securing the safety of the aged.

The minister said several projects had already been started including a register of the aged containing the names and addresses of elderly people. They were then visited by the police and advised on personal safety.

Mr Vlok said that in addition, administrative personnel were used at the weekend for foot-patrols and this had proved to be “highly successful”, as the “visible presence of the police has been a most effective deterrent against potential criminals”.

Earlier a delegate from Jansenville, Mrs Anne Nash, who stood as the NP candidate in Port Elizabeth Central in the May election, said there had been an upswing in attacks on the aged.

She said the cause of many of the attacks lay in the inability of old people to adapt to change, bad planning and a lack of funds all of which made them vulnerable.
FAMILY KILLINGS
NOW HIGHER

Post Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG — The latest spate of family killings has brought the total number of people killed in such murders this year to 40.

Since February this year, there have been 15 family murders — including incidents of stepfathers or live-in boyfriends who have killed the children of the women they loved.

A survey showed that it is almost exclusively a white phenomenon, with only one family murder this year involving a black family.

Twelve men, 10 women and 13 children have died in family tragedies.

There is an increase of women killing their children before committing suicide themselves. One woman killed three of her children and her husband — but not herself.

Almost all of the tragedies occurred in the Transvaal — mainly in affluent industrial or mining areas.

Survey

South African men have the dubious distinction of committing more family murders than men in any other society in the world.

The survey said the killings were often well-planned, with the perpetrators choosing fail-safe methods since they did not want to "hurt" the victims.

Killers were often "gentle people" and a family murder was not the culmination of a series of violent incidents within the family.

The worsening economic situation and also the war in Angola contributed to the killings. "War can drive parents to kill families," said the survey.
New R4-m shopping complex near station

Crime bad for business

By AYESHA ALLIE

Too many bottle stores in central Athlone were behind increasing crime in the area, according to a business leader in the area.

Mr Maboe Isaac of the Western Cape Traders Association, said crime had a negative effect on business in the area.

"People want to feel free and safe when doing their shopping. They like to shop where they are not afraid of being robbed."

He described Beverley Street and the station as the most dangerous.

"About seven years ago the crime was mostly controlled by gangs. Since the development of Mitchell's Plain, there are not many of these gangs around."

Gangs

The gangs which operated in Athlone no longer lived there, he said. Isaac linked the crime rate to unemployment and people's socio-economic background. "We can just ask ourselves why we on the Cape Flats are exposed to such crimes, and not the people in Constantia."

"People usually put the blame on the hawkers. But they are not the culprits."

"We have big businesses in the area, banks, professionals such as lawyers, doctors and bookkeepers, but yet the area has not been expanded because of the crime-rate," Isaac said.

Fighting crime

"The City Council has done nothing to improve the area. Once they uplift the area, hawkers can get better facilities to do their business and people won't walk on top of each other around corners and on pavements."

He said the crime affected workers as well as businesses. Bag snatching took place on weekends, at the end of the month and before Christmas. These robbers and bag snatchers get away quickly because they escape through the residential areas.

"The community can also help fight crime by reporting it," he said. Many people witnessed thefts from cars and shops but were too afraid to tell the police.

Mr Kassiem Allie, general secretary of the Western Cape Traders Association, said the Government was directly responsible for crime on the Cape Flats.

"With three million people unemployed, and working on an average of five people in a family, means 15 million hungry stomachs. The sooner apartheid is abolished, the quicker a solution will be found."

This is all due to this capitalist system," he said.

Allie said there were robberies in Athlone everyday. Shoppers should not blame the hawkers, 52 percent of whom were unemployed and had a right to survive, he said.

The Athlone station commander, Captain Hannie Hanroff, said the area was quite peaceful at the moment.

Hungry

According to his information, the crime rate in central Athlone was less than seven percent of the overall crimes in other areas.

There were regular foot patrols which would be in the festive season.

The bottle stores were not only responsible for robberies. "Crimes take place wherever there are people with money," he said.

The police had found no problems with the hawkers. Most crimes took place in the day and the crime rate in the area was relatively low, Hanroff said.
Police have issued a strong warning to shoplifters, who are expected to be active over the Christmas season.

Goods to the value of more than R6,5m are expected to be stolen in Port Elizabeth and Uitenhage during this period.

This is more than 2.5% of the expected retail sales of about R273,3m for the area during December and January.

Police warned that shoplifting is a criminal offence and that a conviction leaves the culprit with a criminal record.

And the city's Chief Magistrate, Mr Pieter Burger, said the law took a very serious view of shoplifting.

Mr Burger said the penalty for shoplifting varied according to the circumstances. This might, for example, be a fine for stealing a tube of toothpaste or a prison sentence for having stolen a watch.

"No matter what the circumstances, however, the penalty will be such as to show that crime does not pay," he said.

Last year the area lost an estimated R6,5m as calculated according to national figures released by the SA Security Association (SASA) this week.

They, in conjunction with Assoccom, estimated goods to the value of R174m would be pilfered or stolen nationally over Christmas and New Year.

Shoplifting figures rise tremendously over the festive season and most stores in the city have taken on extra security staff to combat pilfering.

In the past six months in Port Elizabeth alone police arrested nearly 500 people on charges of shoplifting.

This accounted for just 2% of those who shoplifted — 98% got away — and did not include the growing number of youngsters who were caught but not prosecuted.

One Grahamstown security manager reported having caught 108 shoplifters of all ages and races in one store in just three weeks.

Supermarket chains in the city were not prepared to divulge their loses through shoplifting, but did say it ran into thousands of rands each month.

Many suicides can be directly linked to shoplifting. Last month a married woman in Johannesburg's northern suburbs shot herself after having been arrested on a charge of shoplifting.
Operation Hunger Gold Rush

Police probe

By CHRIS STEYN

OPERATION HUNGER was plunged into fresh controversy yesterday when police disclosed that the Gold Rush II and III competitions were the subject of an investigation into possible contraventions of the Lottery Act.

On the eve of the draw for the 16 finalists of the First National Bank Operation Hunger R1-million Gold Rush III, it also emerged that only 14 of the finalists actually stood a chance of winning the first prize.

This follows the shock scratching of Model Man — the favourite horse in the main feature race at Turffontein scheduled to determine the winner of Gold Rush III. With only 13 horses accepted for the race on Saturday, 14 horses are now left to run.

A spokesperson for Operation Hunger, Mr Ann Scott, insisted yesterday that the race was not in jeopardy.

Ms Scott said Model Man's scratching was disappointing because “that was the big lure”, but she added that the rules of the competition had made provision for scratchings.

The problems dogging Operation Hunger's third Gold Rush have emerged just weeks after a three-month legal wrangle over the R1-million prize money for the Gold Rush II competition.

A police spokesman confirmed yesterday that the SA Narcotics Bureau (Sanab) at John Vorster Square in Johannesburg had launched a formal investigation into Operation Hunger's Gold Rush II and III competitions.

He said detectives were probing possible contraventions of the Lottery Act. "The docket concerning the current competition and the previous one will be forwarded to the Attorney-General for his decision as soon as the investigation has been completed," the police spokesman said.

Asked to comment on the new development, Ms Scott said the organisation was aware of the police investigation: "It came as a surprise, but there is nothing we can do — we are just waiting for the police to present their case."

Referring to today's draw, Ms Scott said the names of horses that had been scratched will be included — but she confirmed that finalists who drew those horses would not be in line for the first prize.

"The finalist who draws the name of a scratched horse will be entitled to a R5,000 consolation prize," she said.

Today's public draw for the 16 finalists, the top athletes with whom they will be paired, and the 30 consolation prize winners will take place at 11.15pm in the Sandton City shopping centre.

Botha: No debate

By INTUTION

THE South African horse-racing industry lost three major races yesterday.

Most of the Transvaal trainers horses from Saturday's First National Bank meeting at Turffontein.

The favourite and big-flop Man, was withdrawn because of a wa.

The police confirmed that they were investigating "voting" cases.

The First National Bank over R2,000 over feature race in the Transvaal on Saturday was the Horse of the Year.

A Berliner race at medical centre fund for The Next could mean the going, which will hit local money.

A spokesman for the Wi Racing Clubs confirmed that they could be involved in betting between trainers and the Another Bow was the scratching of the hot-pot horse in the Turffontein race.

If these horses are not certain to go, the trainers will draw horses today to decide on a million rand.

Incidentally, one of the up for the First National meeting was the horse who was involved in a fire when he was being unloaded.

Trainers Nels van Zyl and Pieter Botha were both found guilty of over-officiousness. Their appeal are being processed by the Department and Mr Gary Noel, the racing manager. "We are convinced that no further action will be taken," Noel said.

Major Ben Dippenaar of Johannesburg confirmed that the horses were being moved to Rustenburg and Bloemfontein.
Hangings end the story of two rape-murders

The Argus Correspondent

PRETORIA. — The final chapters in two of the country's most gruesome murders were written today with the execution of Klerksdorp "booi" murderer Joseph George Scheepers and 19-year-old "Coke bottle" murderer Johannes Wessels.

Also executed at the Pretoria Central Prison were Jim Khethong Mokwena and Simon Ramoatse Moatlhe. The four hangings have brought to 138 the number of criminals who have been executed this year.

Scheepers was hanged after his plea late yesterday for a stay of execution was rejected.

Long sentences

Scheepers was one of four married men involved in the rape and murder of a young woman who was locked in the boot of a car which was set alight.

The other three are serving long jail sentences.

Also hanged in Pretoria Prison was 19-year-old Coke-bottle murderer Johannes Wessels. He and three others were found guilty of raping Elizabeth Mokouma, 12. Wessels and another man were convicted of murdering her.

The other three are serving jail sentences.

The four married men — Wessels, his 19-year-old neighbour Christo Viljoen, and two friends, Frederick Swanepoel, 25, and Michael Mynhardt, 24 — forced the girl into a bakkie at a bus stop after demanding her pass. They took her to a dam and took turns raping her.

"Mad Max"

Wessels knocked her out with a bottle and the four left.

Wessels, Viljoen and Swanepoel returned later and Wessels stabbed the half-naked girl to death with a diving knife.

The court heard that Wessels and Viljoen had seen the film Mad Max the night before the murder and were greatly influenced by its violence.

An application by Wessels for a stay of execution was rejected.
Old-type GST certificates lose validity

KAY TURVEY

GST old-format registration certificates will not be valid from tomorrow.

Those who do not use the new computerised sales tax registration certificates by December 1 will commit an offence if the intent is to avoid bearing tax payable on purchases or imports.

Asoccom has warned anybody who does not have the new certificates, issued after June 1, 1987, will not be exempt from GST when acquiring stock for trading.

Inland Revenue has said many vendors did not furnish information for the new certificates.
CRIME - GENERAL

JAN - DEC

1988
NINE-year-old Sarah changed overnight from a gregarious little girl to a withdrawn, silent child who wouldn't leave her mother's side and responded to her father's affection with aggressiveness.

At school, her teacher found her attitude vastly changed and her schoolfriends soon dropped her after repeated refusals to go to their homes and sleep over with them at weekends.

After six weeks of enormous difficulty with her child, Sarah's mother took her for child counselling — and the cause of Sarah's unhappiness came to light.

Intelligent, sensitive

On three visits to her aunt's home, her uncle, 27, had come to her room in the middle of the night and interfered with the little girl. When she protested, he told her there was nothing wrong with what he was doing and that it was a secret game they could play together.

Sarah, an intelligent and sensitive little girl, knew it was wrong, but was afraid to tell anyone because "they would blame her." She revealed from her father's confabs because she was afraid he would do the same things to her if she got too close.

Sarah had wanted, she recounted later, to tell her teacher, but thought she wouldn't be believed. So far, for two months, the little girl had carried her fear silently and dealt with it in the only way she could — with aggression towards the adults in her life.

Nightmare continues

For some children, the nightmare continues — with fathers, brothers or grandfathers inflicting it — for years before anyone is aware of what is happening. Sometimes no one ever finds out and the child grows into an adult with deep emotional scars that can never be healed.

Sexual abuse of children — particularly incestuous abuse — is a problem that must be, in recent years, been "out of the closet" and public awareness and reaction led to increased reporting of suspected cases.

South Africa's first full-time specialised police unit to investigate crimes against children was recently formed in Cape Town and on the day the unit opened, distress calls came in from all over the Republic.

Within a fortnight, over 60 calls from the Western Cape had been investigated and referred to the local organisations.

Nicro (National Institute for Crime Prevention and Rehabilitation of Offenders) recently spearheaded a programme aimed at teachers, enabling them to counsel children in the prevention of sexual abuse and to recognise the warning signals in pupils who may already be suffering from this form of abuse. MAUREEN PITHY reports.

Nicro fighting 'ugliest crime'

Nicro social workers believe awareness of sexual abuse can begin in the classroom. With their new programme for teachers, the organisation hopes to help prevent sexual abuse in children and reach out to those already suffering.

"We're working in various settings and on four important levels," says Raella. "Firstly, we look at teachers' understanding of attitudes towards abuse, then we aim to provide schools with the necessary knowledge and skills that will enable them to identify how such abuse manifests itself in a child's behaviour in the classroom.

"We help develop their referral and counselling skills and show how they can create an open atmosphere in which children can talk without fear. Further, we look at the role teachers can play in preventing sexual abuse through education.

"So it is essential that the child should feel free to talk about it, knowing that the teacher will believe what they say, and will do nothing without the child's knowledge.

"Children must know what their rights are, that it's okay to say "no" to an adult. Teachers and adults teach stranger danger to their pupils and children who must also be made aware of the potential danger in their own homes."

For more information on the programme, teachers can phone Nicro (47-4060). Other contacts for help with sexually abused children should be directed to the Child and Family Unit, Red Cross Hospital, Child Welfare or the SAP Anti-Child Abuse Unit (45-3670 or 16-3235).
Families in distress: More cries for help

BY CHRIS STEYN

Professional people such as church ministers, psychiatrists, MPs and lawyers are asking for family and marriage counselling in increasing numbers, the director of the Family and Marriage Society of SA (Famsa), Mrs Freda van der Walt, said yesterday.

Mrs Van der Walt said there had, over a period of six months, been a 46% increase in the number of white couples from higher-income groups seeking marriage counselling at Famsa.

Famsa have appealed to the Community Chest for funds to extend their services.

Research by a prominent Pretoria theologian has shown that family killings are more common in South Africa than anywhere else in the world.

He found that a family killer is lurking in many close-knit South African families, and he is likely to be a non-violent and religious father — who owns a gun.

The Rev Jan van Arkel, lecturer in practical theology at Unisa, yesterday told the Cape Times that family killings seemed to be "a predominantly Afrikaans phenomenon".

Of the 218 cases he studied between 1983 and late last year, 200 involved families who spoke mainly Afrikaans.

Mr Van Arkel said most family killers were married fathers with the "authoritarian conviction" that they were entirely responsible for their "close-knit" families.

They were also often religious men who believed "that life after death was better than life here".

According to Mr Van Arkel, family murderers were most likely to kill when the family unit seemed threatened, through financial difficulties or illness.

Although many family killers did not have a history of violent behaviour towards members of their family, they were usually gun-owners.

He said the family killings studied appeared to have been planned and executed in such a way "that there cannot be any mistake".
Nicro in Soweto broadens its horizons

THEO RAWANA

"The necessity to provide vocational-skills training facilities has become a matter of urgency."

The Nicro complex — built on a 2.5ha plot — is a product of Meletse's efforts at fund-raising, employing a technical manager and using the services of former prisoners who learned bricklaying and carpentry in jail.

The Anglo American and De Beers Chairman's Fund pumped in the first R80,000 for the initial phase, and building-material suppliers were approached for donations.

The centre has started workshops where former prisoners and the general public can be trained to become bricklayers, plasterers, carpenters, welders, construction foremen and even small-business owners.

"As functioning commercial operations, the workshops will provide job opportunities," says Meletse.

He believes the people most likely to come into conflict with the law are the unemployed, early school-leavers and truants, because what they earn cannot meet their basic needs.

Recently, in conjunction with fifth-year architecture students from Wits University and qualified architects, the centre has been training 10 architectural draughtsmen who attend classes every Saturday.

Meletse says the centre received a R16,000 sponsorship last year from the Jewish group Organisation for Rehabilitation and Vocational and Technical Training (ORT) and Anglo American's architectural division provided drawing tables.
Raphael's

Corruption

Allegations

On this day, 20/1/08, the

issue was raised the question of

Raphael's involvement in

the corruption allegations.

It is alleged that Raphael

has been involved in

illegal transactions and

misappropriation of funds.

Further investigations are

required to clarify this matter.

Air

DUS

ANKARA

- Repatriation Office

- Noor
Rush to Fit

Insurance move leads many to hit the panic button

Protection has many pieces

Car Alarms

By RAMOND HIL

MR. KOBUS DE VO’S an employee at Ford Elaraan car security firm, shows how the latest
model of unit installed in a recent car.
AA Raising for anti-theft devices

The emerging threat of electronic theft is changing the way we think about security. With the advent of advanced technology, traditional methods of protection are becoming outdated. This has led to a rise in the popularity of anti-theft devices designed to prevent electronic devices from being stolen or stolen.

Some of the most effective anti-theft devices on the market today include:

1. GPS tracking devices: These devices allow you to track your device’s location in real-time, even if it’s been stolen.
2. Anti-theft software: This software can help prevent unauthorized access to your device and lock it down if it’s been stolen.
3. Biometric access: Devices that use fingerprints, facial recognition, or other biometric identifiers to prevent unauthorized access.
4. Secure containers: These containers are designed to be used with electronic devices and can help protect them from theft.

It’s important to choose the right anti-theft device for your needs and budget, and to use them in conjunction with other security measures to keep your electronic devices safe.

ABOVE LEFT & ABOVE RIGHT: Anti-theft devices come in a variety of forms to suit different needs and budgets. From GPS tracking to biometric access, there are many options available to help protect your valuable electronic devices.
MARK GLEESON

The arrest of a man for the mysterious murder 25 years ago of Mr Justice Cooper has again turned the spotlight on unsolved cloak-and-dagger killings in South Africa.

While the South African Police have a good record of solving major crimes, there is a growing list of murders — mostly political — that remain on their files.

The upsurge in political violence throughout the country and an escalation in urban crime have contributed to this increase.

The June 1976 uprisings in Soweto produced a fair share of unsolved murders, but the shooting a year later of National Party parliamentary candidate Dr Robert Smut brought home the harsh reality of political assassination.

On November 23, just seven days before the general election, the bodies of Dr Smut and his wife, Deene, were found in their Springs home. Dr Smut had been shot four times and Mrs Smut had been shot and stabbed.

**Slogons**

Spray-painted on the walls of their home in huge red letters were the words "Raw" and "Teen". The significance of the slogans remains a mystery, as do the identity and motives of the killers.

One suggested motive for the murders was that Dr Smut had uncovered a major currency-smuggling racket involving leading figures.

Just over 10 years ago, University of Natal political scientist Professor Rick Turner was gunned down at his Durban home.

He was one of the first of a long list of left-wing activists to be killed by unknown persons.

In 1981, Natal was the scene of another mysterious murder — this time of former Robben Island prisoner Mr Griffith Mxenge, whose mutilated body was found at a cycling stadium in the coastal township of Umzazi.

The brutal execution of Mr Mxenge, who was regarded as a "people's lawyer", led his wife, Nonyamaelio Mxenge, on a four-year search for the killers.

Growing list of unsolved murders comes under spotlight

That search ended tragically on August 1 1985, when four unknown assassins shot and axed her to death in the driveway of her home.

At the time Mrs Mxenge was an instructing attorney in a Maritzburg law firm.

Her murder appeared to be precise and well-planned. Rev. Rev. Mcebisi Xundu, an executive member of the UDF, was with Mrs Mxenge when she was killed.

He said: "I was helping Mrs Mxenge collect her parcels from my car when four men came rushing from the bushes across the road. I heard two shots go off..."

Mrs Mxenge was shot and axed to death in front of her children.

Both Mxenge killings remain unsolved.

About three weeks before her death, Mrs. Mxenge had travelled to Cradock in the Eastern Cape, to the burial of three community leaders and a teacher from nearby Oudtshoorn, whose charred bodies were found near Port Elizabeth.

The three Cradock men — Mr. Matthew Goniwe, Mr Port Calata and Mr Sparrow Mokotam — had been high-profile leaders of a school boycott and campaign against rent increases, and had become internationally known figures.

**UDF meeting**

Towards the end of June 1985, the three, together with Mr. Sicerro Mhlawu, an Oudtshoorn teacher, travelled from Cradock to Port Elizabeth to attend a UDF meeting.

On June 28 their burnt bodies were found with multiple stab wounds. Two of the men had been shot. An absence of wounds on the arms of two of the men led detectives to believe they had been bound before being executed.

UDF spokesmen claimed the killings were the work of hit-squads formed to eliminate opponents of apartheid.

The violence in the Crossroads and KTC squatter camps outside Cape Town in 1986 took the lives of many people, including wittdoeke vigilantes, allegedly supported by the police, fought the "comrades".

But perhaps the most widely publicised vigilante killing was that of South African television cameraman Mr George De'ath, while filming the vigilante at KTC squatter camp for Britain's Independent Television News.

Mr De'ath, who had worked in Beirut, Belfast, and Zimbabwe during the war of independence, was attacked on June 10 and died five days later.

It was first stated that Mr De'ath had been attacked by "comrades", but soundman Mr Andile Fosi — who was with him at the time — was emphatic that Wittdoeke had been responsible.

There was so much confusion during the Crossroads fighting, said Mr Fosi, that they could not tell the difference between the warring factions.

Police had not fired teargas at a group of "comrades", he said, when he and Mr De'ath found themselves in the middle of a group of warring factions.

**Comrades**

It was then that Mr Fosi made a tragic error — he addressed the men as "qabang" (comrades). In fact, they were wittdoeke — who turned on the crew, shouting: "You are the ones who are killing us."

Mr Fosi fled to a police van, but Mr De'ath was later found dumped beside one of the shanties, bleeding profusely from severe wounds to the head and body.

In December 1986, another prominent civil rights couple, Dr Fabian Ribeiro and his wife Florence, were murdered this time in Mamelodi, outside Pretoria.

On the evening of December 1, two or three gunmen burst into Dr Ribeiro's home and shot him and his wife dead before fleeing in a motor vehicle.

A former member of Rhodesia's Selous Scouts, Mr Noel James Robey, was arrested in connection with the double killing, but was later cleared by a Pretoria magistrate.
Dirty war tactics put us in polecat company

This country can quite easily slide to the status of a banana republic, like those in Latin America, if we're not careful. Some would argue we've travelled that far already.

We have hit squads on the prowl and, the list of unexplained murders is getting disconcertingly long. An insidious "dirty war" is being waged here and in neighbouring states.

Sicelo Dihlomo is the latest victim — most are opponents of the Government — butchered in the most brutal fashion imaginable.

If, as some circles are trying to suggest, it is the work of political opponents, what stops the authorities bringing such murderers to heel?

I don't know what to make of the reward offered by the police for the arrest of those behind the latest outrage. Fact is, none of the killers of many Government opponents has been brought to justice.

The Ribeiro case was the nearest they came to a prosecution, but official conduct in that chapter has left a bitter taste in many mouths.

Innocent blood

I often wonder what will happen to all those causing so much pain and agony once the country has sorted out its problems. Are we, for instance, going to have Nuremberg-type trials of our own?

President Raul Alfonsin of Argentina, in trying to deliver on his election promises to weed out all those in the military who washed their army boots with innocent blood, has hit snags that threaten to topple his government.

Elements within the army won't let justice take its course.

In Haiti, the Tonton Macoutes went on a murderous spree two months ago, slaughtering voters at polling booths when it became clear staunch opponents of Duvalierism were likely to win. The elections were cancelled.

Now, after new elections, the Macoutes have got their man. And the men of darkness will once again escape their just deserts.

The usual refrain is: it won't happen here. Like Ian Smith was fond of saying: "Our Africans are the happiest lot on the continent."

Well, kyk hoe byk hy nou.

Difficult to resist

Had Robert Mugabe and his men fought their way into Harare, rather than being stopped in their tracks by the Lancaster talks and an impatient and war-weary Samora Machel, it is doubtful whether certain people would still be around to claim their pensions.

The new leadership would have found it difficult to resist a mood for vengeance among its followers.

Those on the Right who believe the Zimbabwe settlement was a sell-out will do well to remember that things could have been worse.

There are those who profess a hatred for violence but nod approvingly when it hits elsewhere or advances their cause. Angola is a perfect example.

Either murderers are found and punished, or we forget about peaceful solutions.
SA's crime rate is too high — Vlok

The crime rate in SA was unacceptably high, the Minister of Law and Order, Mr Adriaan Vlok, said during the no-confidence debate yesterday.

"But we do not accept it as such. We go out of our way to do something about it."

In the past year, the visible signs of unrest had subsided to a degree. On detainees, he said there were “decisions upon decisions” from courts saying detainees were lawfully held in terms of the emergency.

The “Progs” were “soft on security”, he said. — Sapa.
Govt aims to halt tax avoidance schemes

GOVERNMENT has issued a warning that it is to clampdown on tax avoidance schemes devised to get round legislation relating to incentive allowances.

The warning comes from Deputy Finance Minister Kent Durr, who noted that the Income Tax Act was amended in 1984 in order to minimise the incentive and other tax allowances to abuse by taxpayers.

This was aimed at bringing to a halt those practices whereby businesses were capitalising finance charges into the cost of such assets and claiming the allowances on the resultant inflated cost.

B/Day 15/2/88

Durr said in a statement released in Cape Town it had been brought to the government attention that new schemes have now been devised which make use of similar principles and are purported to fall outside the scope of present legislation.

Section 11(b3) of the Act is to be revised to make it clear that the cost of any plant, machinery, utensils, articles or livestock acquired by a taxpayer, for the purpose of any trade, including that of mining, shipping or farming, under any purchase agreement shall be restricted to the cash cost thereof. This provision will apply from February 12.
CONCERNED South Africans are joining Neighbourhood Watch at a rate of 150 a day, says president Gaye Neille.

"Since the scheme was introduced to SA in November 1985, it has attracted a national membership of 12,000."

In a bid to combat SA's soaring burglary rate, beleaguered house-holders have been forced to take a fresh look at security arrangements for the protection of family and possessions.

The emergence of Neighbourhood Watch as a powerful anti-theft tool has seen hundreds of applicants flocking to sign up for what police and the insurance industry recognise as an effective self-protection scheme.

Police say "crime in general" has dropped in areas where the Watch has been established.

Neille says in the six months since Neighbourhood Watch was introduced to Johannesburg North, Randburg, the rate of burglaries dropped from 30-40 a month to between two and 10 a month.

And short-term insurance broker Pretasa and Commercial Union are offering a 5% discount on monthly insurance premiums to policy-holders who are Watch members.

Neille says: "People are scared."

Good neighbours cut down the crime rate

DANIEL SIMON

This is manifest in the high walls home owners have erected around their properties.

"Ironically, in spite of these and other anti-social security measures such as vicious dogs, malevolent 'no trespassing' notices and razor barbed wire, the burglary rate is higher than it has ever been in our country."

Parties

The scheme owes much of its growing popularity to a simple approach of fostering "good neighbourliness".

Where once a feeling of suspicion and hostility ruled in many of SA's urban areas, people now hold street parties to promote this security awareness concept dubbed "the idea whose time has come".

As one Watch member puts it: "It is finally dawning on South Africans that they should collectively participate in protecting each other's interests."

"Sickened by a high crime rate, people are turning to each other for protection instead of relying on burglar proof security paraphernalia."

Neille, who returned to SA in 1984 after 11 years in Canada, says she was dismayed to see how formerly sociable and neighbourly people had become "mentally besieged", police are supportive of Neighbourhood Watch's crime prevention role and say it is a case of "being thy brother's keeper."

New attitudes

"As crime is a social phenomenon, prevention must be the personal responsibility of every section of society."

Head of Randburg CID Colonel W N Visser says the Watch's presence in deterring crime in his area was "unequivocally, being felt."

Visser says: "People are now taking more interest in what is happening in their communities."

The old attitude of not wanting to get involved has changed. People are now, more security conscious and are contacting the police which is helping to combat crime. We are not strangers to the people anymore."

□ NEILLE . . . "People are scared"
Drink Bill allows judicial discretion

In terms of South Africa's common law, a person charged with a crime requiring intention may successfully plead that he was, at the time of the commission of the crime, drunk to the point of criminal incapacity. However, a Bill introduced in Parliament on Monday which creates a new offence called criminal intoxication will ensure that people who commit crimes while intoxicated will not escape punishment. BRUCE ANDERSON reports.

Intoxication, whether by means of alcohol or drugs, and the part it plays in affecting the criminal capacity of an accused has often posed difficult questions for our courts.

The Minister of Justice, Mr Kobie Coetzee, noted this week that the case of the State v Chretien, a 1981 Appellate Division (AD) decision, gave an accurate interpretation of the present common-law position in regard to drunkenness.

Yet even in that decision, the court — in an Afrikaans judgment — was forced to resort to relatively imprecise terms such as vandrunken (papdrunk) and papdronk in defining degrees of drunkenness. A person who was papdronk represented the more extreme form of drunkenness, the court said.

The real importance of the case, say legal experts, was that it represented a landmark decision in our criminal law.

It arose from an incident in which a man, while drunk, had driven his minibus into a group of people, killing one and injuring five others.

The trial court held that it could not be found that the man had deliberately killed the victim, and returned a verdict of culpable homicide on the first count and an acquittal on four counts of attempted murder.

The State was dissatisfied with the judgment and, on a question of law, took the case to the AD.

The AD held that the judge in the lower court had been correct in deciding the accused could not even be convicted of common assault on the attempted murder charges because the necessary intention required for the offence had been influenced by the voluntary consumption of alcohol.

Lawyers say that the Criminal Law Amendment Bill, which the Minister piloted through Parliament this week, provides for harsher treatment of people who, to employ the terms used in the Bill, commit acts under the influence of certain substances.

The Bill has two main provisions. Firstly, it makes it possible to punish a person who commits an act, prohibited by law, while under the influence of drugs or liquor.

The new statutory offence of criminal intoxication makes this possible. In explaining the Bill, the Minister said: "Suppose an accused is being tried for murder and during the proceedings he successfully raises the defence of voluntary intoxication. He would then in terms of Clause 1(1) not be guilty of murder, but may be guilty of criminal intoxication."

Secondly, in determining an appropriate sentence for an offence committed under the influence, the court may regard drunkenness as an aggravating circumstance.

The Minister has indicated that one of the reasons the Bill was introduced was public concern at the number of crimes committed under the influence of liquor and drugs. He said an investigation had shown that society in general supported the new law.

Members of the legal fraternity, approached for comment this week, confirmed that the Bill was in line with public demand for stricter action in cases where people committed crimes while intoxicated.

"I think the Bill provides solace to those who have suffered at the hands of a person who has committed a crime under the influence of substances such as liquor and who might otherwise have escaped punishment," said Mr Max late, acting chairman of the Johannesbar.

But it might be difficult to prove, evidentially, that a person consumed a substance knowing "what the effect of it might be," he added.

A spokesman for the Association of Law Societies, Mr Anton Froneman, said that the Bill would give judges "a very wide discretion to impose a sentence on the merits of a case".
Drug Smuggler's Cape Sperrei

Drugs smuggled into Namibia

The Border: Mr. WhiteMonkey would soon
fear the strain of living with the pressure
of his drugs smuggling operation and
the constant fear of being caught by the
authorities. He knew that he needed to
find a safe place to hide his drugs before
they could be found by the police.

In South Africa, he heard about a
remote area that was said to be
uninhabited by humans. It was
perfect for his needs.

He contacted a friend in South
Africa who promised to help him
transport the drugs to the remote
area.

The friend agreed to transport the
drugs, but he wanted to be paid in
exchange. Mr. WhiteMonkey
agreed and gave him a large sum of
money.

The friend transported the
drugs to the remote area and
hidden them in a cave. Mr.
WhiteMonkey was overjoyed.

However, things did not go as
planned. The friend decided to
keep the money and run away with
the drugs.

Mr. WhiteMonkey was
devastated. He had invested a lot
of money in the operation and
now it was all lost.

He decided to find a new
partner to help him transport the
drugs. He met a new friend who
agreed to help him.

The new friend was more
reliable than the first one. He
agreed to transport the drugs
without any money in exchange.

With the new friend, Mr.
WhiteMonkey was able to
continue his smuggling operation.

He realized that he could not
trust anyone completely. He had to
be careful and always have a plan B.

Mr. WhiteMonkey continued
to smuggle drugs into Namibia,
and he became more successful
with each operation.

In the end, he was caught by the
authorities and sentenced to life
in prison.

Cape Sperrei

Hunting lodge in Namibia

Home in Bandy Bay

R200 000 Chinone

R5 in Fungochok Farm

CONVICTED Indian drug smugg-

By LAUREN PARKER

Palm Beach

Franschhoek Farm and house on a
property-buying spree in the
Glamorous Palm Beach

R5 in Fungochok Farm
PALAZZOLO: SA IMMIGRATION CERK ARRESTED

...
KANTOOR VAN DIE STAATSPRESIDENT

No. 412. 4 Maart 1988

Hierby word bekend gemaak dat die Staatspresident sy goedkeuring geheg het aan die onderstaande Wet wat hierby ter algemene inligting gepubliseer word:


STATE PRESIDENT'S OFFICE

No. 412. 4 March 1988

It is hereby notified that the State President has assented to the following Act which is hereby published for general information:

ACT

To render punishable certain acts committed by persons whose mental faculties are impaired by the consumption or use of certain substances; and to provide for matters incidental thereto.

(Afrikaans text signed by the State President.)
(Assented to 25 February 1988.)

BE IT ENACTED by the State President and the Parliament of the Republic of South Africa, as follows:—

1. (1) Any person who consumes or uses any substance which impairs his faculties to appreciate the wrongfulness of his acts or 5 to act in accordance with that appreciation, while knowing that such substance has that effect, and who while such faculties are thus impaired commits any act prohibited by law under any penalty, but is not criminally liable because his faculties were impaired as aforesaid, shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to the penalty, except the death penalty, which may be imposed in respect of the commission of that act.

   (2) If in any prosecution for any offence it is found that the accused is not criminally liable for the offence charged on account of the fact that his faculties referred to in subsection (1) were impaired by the consumption or use of any substance, such accused may be found guilty of a contravention of subsection (1), if the evidence proves the commission of such contravention.

2. Whenever it is proved that the faculties of a person convicted of any offence were impaired by the consumption or use 20 of a substance when he committed that offence, the court may, in determining an appropriate sentence to be imposed upon him in respect of that offence, regard as an aggravating circumstance the fact that his faculties were thus impaired.

3. This Act shall be called the Criminal Law Amendment Act, 25 1988.
**Dropout ... now tops**

Because of the poor education system, many young people from low-income families drop out of school and become unemployed. This is a pressing issue in South Africa, and organizations like the South African Gun Owners Association (SAGO) have been advocating for better education policies and more efficient use of resources to combat this problem.

**Pat Devereaux**

**S Africa in past year**

In the past year, South Africa has experienced a significant increase in firearm incidents. The data shows that 10,000 firearms were lost in the year 2018.

Pat Devereaux
What is the cause of rape?

By Phanqi Mthakali

SOURCE: Mwai
By BARRY STREEK

MORE THAN 6 000 people were arrested for drunkeness — at an average of more than 16 a day — in central Cape Town in 1987, the Minister of Law and Order, Mr Adriaan Vlok, said yesterday.

Mr Vlok, who was replying to a question by Mr Ken Andrew (PFP, Gardens), said 4 494 men and 1 519 women were arrested for drunkeness.

He also said 809 people were arrested for vagrancy.

Almost 60 000 cars, worth nearly R900 million, were reported stolen last year, Mr Vlok said.

But 33 177 of the 59 936 vehicles stolen were recovered undamaged. A further 7 112 were found damaged and 2 049 had been cannibalized.

Mr Vlok, who was replying to questions by Mr Harry Schwarz (PFP, Yeoville), said 194 286 burglaries were reported last year, a decrease of nearly 2% on the previous year.

The police confiscated R85.9 million worth of drugs last year, including 14.9 million Mandrax tablets with an estimated value of R74.3 million, Mr Vlok said.
Parliament to debate staggering crime rate

By David Braun,
Political Correspondent

CAPE TOWN — The crime wave in South Africa in recent years has reached such proportions that it has become one of the most burning political questions at grassroots level.

MPs of all political parties agree on this.

Figures furnished by Minister of Law and Order Adriaan Vlok in Parliament recently have again portrayed a society racked by crimes of violence and dishonesty.

On the Witwatersrand, according to the 1987 statistics, an average of nearly seven people are murdered each day, and nearly eight raped.

The thefts of vehicles and burglaries are staggering.

In greater Durban, crimes of violence — particularly in black townships — have soared.

And Pretoria in 1987, more than 400 people were murdered, the victims being either members of the police or because of criminal negligence.

VEHICLE CRISIS

Nationwide, close to 60,000 vehicles were stolen last year. They were valued at nearly R200 million. Only 33,000 were recovered undamaged.

The wave of crime has soared so dramatically that the House of Assembly has agreed to a special debate this session.

The Progressive Federal Party MP for Yeoville, Mr Harry Schwarz, has given notice that he will move for a special debate.

His motion reads:

"That the House calls upon the Government to take further urgent steps to deal with the serious crime problem prevailing in South Africa, which not only endangers the person and property of ordinary citizens, but also threatens the stability of the country."

Mr Schwarz, told The Star that he could name streets where every house had been burgled.

The police are being asked about the police because they did not have the manpower for regular patrols.

In the more affluent areas, people were paying for protection by way of private security firms, expensive alarm systems, and elaborate burglary-proofing.

People not so well off had to rely on the under-manned police.

The ratio of police per capita of population was not only too low by most world standards, said Mr Schwarz, but they were being taken away from crime prevention duties because they had to deal with unrest.

As a result, entire urban centres had become mugging zones, so that at night they were deserted.

Shopping centres had to hire security firms to protect their customers if they wanted to keep them.

Mr Schwarz said high unemployment was mainly to blame for the high incidence of crime.

But there was also the fact that there were phenomena in which some sections of the community not only rejected the law enforcement agencies, but also the law itself.

Mr Schwarz said the solution to the problem was to be found in creating a long-term plan for the socio-economic upliftment of the masses.

And it was important to employ more policemen. Perhaps the time had come to use other law enforcement agencies more effectively.

For example, said Mr Schwarz, it was more important for local police authorities to be out preventing crime than spending most of their time handing out traffic tickets.

He said a further aspect which needed attention was to make people more aware of crime and more conscious of the need to look after themselves and their neighbours.

The relationship between police and public needed to be improved, and that could be done best by putting "bobbies on the beat", so that policemen could get to know the local people and local circumstances.

CP and AWB in bid to organise at Tukkies

Education Reporter

The Conservative Party and the Afrikaans Weerstandsbevordering (AWB) have applied to Pretoria University's Students Representative Council (SRC) to be allowed to form student societies on campus.

SRC president Mike Joubert said his executive would consider the application this afternoon.

He said he did not foresee any problems with the CP application but doubted the AWB would be granted permission to come on to campus.

"Last year, the SRC accepted guidelines for the admission of political parties or organisations. One of the rules is that affected organisations will not be allowed on campus. This is why applications by Nusas (National Union of South African Students) were rejected.

"I feel that the AWB is 'affiliated' in a way because it is a radical organisation and has certain qualities which are not desirable and which would be a threat to peace on campus," said Mr Joubert.

Members of the AWB, for example, "walk around with weapons".

If the CP application is granted, it will be the first political party to have a branch at Tukkies.

Govt 'not empowered to expel AWB-police'

By Claire Robertson,
Pretoria Bureau

The Government was not empowered to expel police reservists because they belonged to the Afrikaans Weerstandsbevordering (AWB), according to its leader, Mr Eugene Terreblanche.

He labelled the sacking of seven police reservists...
Government is expected to give notice during next week's Budget that it is to crack down even more heavily on tax offenders than it has in the past.

Its motivation is to be that it can no longer afford to do without the millions of rands now escaping the tax net in one way or another.

Some indication of the sums involved were provided in Parliament this week by Finance Minister Barwend du Plessis, answering questions put by PFAP finance spokesman Harry Schwarz.

Du Plessis noted that more than 6 000 individuals and 321 companies had caused government to write off almost R10m in income tax as irrecoverable last year.

Irregularities in respect of general sales tax (GST) uncovered since January last year amounted to more than R113m. That does not, of course, include all those amounts yet to be discovered.

Tax revenue lost as a result of tax concessions granted to decentralised or deconcentrated industries is estimated to be about R28m to March last year.

Finance Department sources said those figures represented just the tip of the potential tax-revenue shortfall and efforts would have to be renewed to make up the deficit.
Tourists like their comforts

FOREIGN tourists coming to SA like their comforts — and that’s official.

A Central Statistical Service (CSS) survey of bed nights sold to foreigners by all hotels last December shows five-star establishments proved the most popular with overseas guests.

Of a total of 95,499 bed nights sold, five-star hotels sold 28.3%, three-star 24.1%, two-star 23.2%, one-star 16.9% and four-star 9.6%.

UK visitors represented the largest group of foreigners staying at hotels in that time and accounted for 27.7% of the total — up 4.6% from the November total of 23.2%. In contrast, bed nights sold to German tourists decreased from 25.6% in November to 20% of the total. The most popular tourist regions were those in the Cape with 41.9% of the total.

In line with tourists’ comfort needs, income for five-star hotels for December 1987 rose 23.9% compared with December 1986.

The CSS figures, not adjusted for inflation, put three-star hotels in second spot with an increase of 22.4%.

Four-star hotels increased income by 16.1%, two-star establishments by 16.7% and one-star by 15.2% — giving an overall percentage increase for the industry of 10.7%.

All star gradings reflected increases in room occupancy rates, with a relatively small increase recorded by four-star hotels (1.1%).

CP lodges complaint

A COMPLAINT by the CP against Anglo American Properties (Ampros) would be lodged today with the Estate Agents Board, CP acting regional council chairman Fred Runtle said yesterday.

The CP objection follows reports last month that Ampros intends negotiating directly with black tenants living in Johannesburg’s “grey areas”.

Ampros would not comment on the planned action. Estate Agents’ Board immediate past chairman Hugh Denney said after a complaint was lodged an extensive hearing procedure had to take place before the board acted.

Denney said: “If an agent willingly breaks the law and incites others to follow suit, then we would take disciplinary action. The board’s powers are limited to two things — imposing a fine of R1 000, or revoking their licence.”

In the past 10 years only 55 agents have had their licences revoked.

Stolen vehicles for sale

THE smashing of an SA-based international car theft syndicate had a sequel yesterday when an insurance industry spokesman said arrangements had been made for the overseas sale of some of the 15 luxury vehicles stolen.

The vehicles, stolen and “exported” last year, are valued at R750 000 each and will be sold in a bid to recover insurance losses.

The cars were traced to their foreign destinations by the SAP, with the help of Interpol, New Zealand and Belgian police forces.

South African Insurance Association (SAlA) CE Rodney Schneeberger said nine cars recovered in Wellington, New Zealand, were due to be sold there shortly.

Schneeberger said: “Three luxury cars which were located in Antwerp, Belgium a couple of months ago, arrived in Durban last Monday. These will be sold off by the insurance companies concerned, as affected owners have been paid out.

“We have three more in London which were recovered recently,” Schneeberger said efforts were still underway to trace other vehicles in different parts of the world.
Intensified tax blitz to recover lost millions

The potential was that every inspector would discover unpaid taxes many times the value of his salary, he added.

Meanwhile, all 150 000 taxpayers who had so far failed to make returns for the 1987 tax year would be summoned within the next week, Albertyn said.

Currently about 300 were being summoned a week in Johannesburg and 200 in Pretoria.

Albertyn said buff forms for the 1988 tax year were in the process of being posted to 2.5-million taxpayers — a record number.

The period of grace for the returns had been extended by two weeks to May 31.
The country should be mobilised to deal with the serious crime position before it endangered peoples' lives and property further and threatened the stability of South Africa, Mr Harry Schwarz, (PFP Yeoville) said yesterday.

Statistics showed that one crime of violence against a person, and two crimes involving the property of people were committed every minute of every day.

Causes for the crime increase were high unemployment, the breakdown of old established values, rapid urbanisation and inadequate housing.

Another problems was that many police were being diverted from dealing with ordinary crime to counter unrest.

Measures to increase their numbers were being implemented far too slowly.

There was also less and less respect for law enforcement agencies and even the law itself.

Mr Schwarz also said the status of South Africa's courts was under attack.

The most important social counter-measure was to ensure more gainful work opportunities were created for the growing population.

The "neighbourhood watch system" needed to be propagated nationwide.

Mr Schwarz said that if private people were allowed to hire para-police forces to protect themselves, there was no reason why local authorities could not do so.

This would provide the same protection to the ordinary citizen.

This whole issue needed to be re-examined.

The consequences of the serious crime position were clear to see.

The rich were spending vast sums on electronic protection and armed guards.

The elderly were afraid to venture from their homes; and insurance premiums were increasing regularly.

Incentives by insurance companies, for example, to use anti-theft and other protection devices, should be encouraged.

He said that it should be compulsory to fit anti-theft devices to vehicles.

Replying, the Minister of Law and Order, Mr Adrian Vlok, said it was clear that the instigators of unrest would have to be dealt with mercilessly, or revolution would become uncontrollable.

Figures for murder, robbery and assault with intent to do grievous bodily harm were "completely unacceptable".

Mr Vlok said the disturbing rise in the incidence of crime in 1985/86 could be attributed largely to the unrest at that time.

Referring to other types of serious crime such as break-ins, he said burglaries of businesses and houses had decreased by just over 12 per cent in December last year.

In October 1987 the decrease had been almost 21 per cent.

He said the police were only in a position to combat the symptoms of the problem — the crimes themselves — and not the deeper, real causes of crime.

The SAP had a problem, as they did not have enough manpower.

The CP MP for Ermeelo, Mr Moolman Mentz, said the increase in crime had a "racial basis" and stemmed from the time the government set out on its path of reform.

This was a question of "black on white", and it could not be ignored that the increase in crime had a racial basis.

There had been murders and other crimes in the past, but those had been committed mainly for reasons of financial or other material gain.

For a black man, murder of a white was justifiable as a semi-political deed. He saw it as part of the struggle against the system.

Black frustrations began the day the government said it was following the path of power-sharing with the coloureds and Indians, but that blacks were excluded. — Sapa
Call to counter crime

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY — The country should be mobilised to deal with the serious crime position before it further endangered people's lives and property and threatened stability, Harry Schwarz (FPP Yeoville) said yesterday.

Moving a Private Member's Motion calling on government to take "further urgent steps" to deal with the situation, he said: "The reality is that crime is a destabilising factor ... the handmaiden of revolution."

Statistics showed that one crime of violence against a person and two crimes involving property were committed every minute of every day. This was irrefutable.

Among the social causes for the crime increase were high unemployment, the breakdown of established values, especially in the family system, rapid urbanisation and inadequate housing.

Another cause was the inadequate number of policemen.

There were about two policemen per 1 000 people, an unfavourable ratio compared with similar countries.

One of the problems was that many police were being diverted from dealing with ordinary crime to counter unrest.

Measures to increase their numbers were being implemented too slowly.

There was also less and less respect for law enforcement agencies and even the law itself. This had to be countered with intensive public relations programmes to restore the image of the policeman as a protector and someone to go to for help.

Another problem that needed to be addressed urgently, said Schwarz, was the fact that the courts status was under attack. Many people no longer regarded those convicted and sentenced deserving of social opprobrium.

The consequences of the serious crime position were clear to see in the rich spending vast sums on electronic protection and armed guards, the elderly being afraid to venture from their homes and regularly increasing insurance premiums. — Saps.
Schwarz calls for urgent steps to check crime

Schwarz has argued that several factors contributed to the "extraordinarily bad" crime situation:

- The ratio of police to population is too low by most Western standards and, most certainly, by Third World standards.

- The police are used in putting down politically-inspired unrest, taking them away from ordinary crime-prevention duties.

- The public is not sufficiently indoctrinated with regard to their own and each other’s vulnerability to crime.

- The economic situation is such that the levels of unemployment are too high, throwing people on to the streets.

Mr Adriaan Vlok.

No increase in crime on racial basis — Minister

The Conservative Party was "stirring up racial hatred" by claiming that crime had increased on a racial basis since Government reform policy was introduced. Law and Order Minister Mr Adriaan Vlok said in the Assembly yesterday that the facts were that whites fell victim to the criminal activity of other whites more often than they were the victims of blacks, said Mr Vlok.

He was speaking in the House of Assembly yesterday at the end of a debate on crime prevention introduced by Progressive Federal Party MP Mr Harry Schwarz.

In a debate which saw the NP often pitted against the FFP and accusing that party of being critical of the police rather than supportive, Mr Schwarz said he was saddened that on this issue which was a matter for common concern and which was not of a political nature, consensus could not be found.

"If we can’t find consensus on this, what hope is there for reaching consensus on anything," he said.

Introducing his motion, he called for a countrywide mobilisation against crime.

There were a number of reasons for the increase in crime but among them was an inadequate number of policemen, he said.

WHITE-ON-WHITE CRIME

Putting the CP in its place at the conclusion of the debate, Mr Vlok said the number of murders of whites by whites was 3.4 per cent higher than the number of murders of whites by blacks. Rapes and assaults of whites by whites were also higher than the numbers of these crimes committed by blacks on whites: 121 per cent higher in respect of rapes and 115 per cent in respect of assaults.

Mr Mooin Mentz, official Opposition MP for Ermeo, said it could not be ignored that crime was increasing on a racial basis with blacks attacking whites.

There had been new momentum to this tendency since 1984 when the Government "began with its reform". In the past, murders, thefts and robberies had been financially and materially motivated.

Threatens Stability:

Mr Schwarz said it was irresponsible that a crime of violence was committed against a person somewhere "every minute of every day". He called on the Government to take urgent steps to address crime as a problem which not only endangered peoples’ lives and property but was the "handmaiden of revolution" and threatened the stability of South Africa.

Unemployment, urbanisation, inadequate housing and the breakdown of traditional values were among the causes of the increase in crime but so was the "inadequate number of policemen", he said.

The ratio was about two policemen for 1,000 people.

He said the police were greatly appreciated by many people but their image had suffered and there should be an intensive public relations programme to restore respect for the policeman as a protector.

Mr Vlok said statistics in respect of certain crimes had shown a decrease but crimes of violence were on the increase.

The African National Congress and the SA Communist Party were first in the line of factors which had created this increase.

Crime up after influx control abolished

There was a direct correlation between the serious increase in crime in South Africa and the "abolition of identity documents and influx control (for blacks)", Mr C G Jacobs (CP Losberg) said yesterday.

Speaking in the House of Assembly, Mr Jacobs said in his debate on the need for urgent steps to counter the serious crime situation, he said the NP’s claim that the abolition of influx control had not affected the crime rate was not true.

There was no more control over the movements and presence of what were largely Third World people in urban areas and this was needed as evidence by the more than 300 per cent increase in crime in his constituency since the abolition of influx control.

Inadequate

Mr Jacobs said one of the major problems was the inadequate number of policemen, especially whites, which frequently resulted in black policemen manning rural police stations at night.

"If the Minister of Law and Order was not at home and his wife wanted to lay a complaint at the police station, would she not prefer to make it with a policeman of her own kind?" he asked.

Another problem with the police force was salaries.

A detective had told him during the general election campaign last year that he had to support himself, his wife and a child on mere R590 a month after deductions.

"How can anybody live on this?" Mr Jacobs asked.
Sophisticated car theft gang smashed by police

Crime Reporter

Johannesburg vehicle branch detectives yesterday smashed a sophisticated car-theft gang which operated from a Fordsburg panel-beating shop, arresting four men and recovering 10 stolen and suspected stolen vehicles worth about R150 000.

Detectives from the John Vorster Square vehicle branch led by the unit's commander, Captain Paul Loock, swooped on the Claire Street premises, made the arrests and recovered the vehicles.

A police spokesman said the policemen found many of the vehicles in the shop were still being altered for resale when they struck.

The vehicles consisted mostly of minibuses and bakkies.

Eight of them were positively identified as being stolen, while detectives suspect the other two recovered vehicles might also have been stolen.

FOUR TO APPEAR

No further arrests were expected and the four suspects would appear in court soon, said the spokesman.

● The John Vorster Square vehicle branch, said to be one of the best of its kind in the country, have already reduced car-theft by about 40 percent in the city centre.

Rewards of up to R10 000 are offered for information leading to the arrest and conviction of car thieves.

Captain Loock recently introduced a "hotline" for the public to phone him with information on car theft. Vehicles worth about R1 million have already been recovered from information given to police on the hotline.

The number is: (011) 836-6562.
PRETORIA — Certain unscrupulous profit-centred undertakings were active which exploited the good name of the SA Police public relations division, here yesterday. "...

In a warning to the public the SAP said these undertakings made "sensational" claims and promises to the public that were not fulfilled.

By the time the public realised that would not be receiving the "wonderful service" they had paid for, the undertaking had already disbanded or changed owners. Scare tactics used to encourage the public to subscribe included false claims that crime in one area had increased by 227 per cent and in another case that the ANC, UDF, Cosatu and the names of various controversial persons were responsible for crime in a country community.

The SAP emphasised that the Neighbourhood Watch system gave exceptionally good results.

—Sapa
...Around Sexual Violence

REPORT
SILENCE
BREAKING THE...
"Crime down" since Kitscops.

Political Staff

Both unrest-related incidents and "ordinary crime" had declined ever since special constables were deployed in black townships, the Minister of Law and Order, Mr. Adri"an Vlok, said yesterday. Replying to a question from Mr. Helen Suzman (PFP Houghton), Mr. Vlok said he regretted deliberate campaigns to discredit special constables.

"This is being done with evil intentions in order to jeopardize the good relations that exist between them and the majority of law-abiding citizens of black townships."
Call for probe into capital punishment

PRETORIA — A senior advocate has called for an in-depth investigation of capital punishment in South Africa.

The former director-general of the Department of Justice, Mr. Philip Coetzee SC of the Pretoria Bar, said in the new advocates' journal, Consaluis, that the imposition of the death sentence had not been looked at in over fifty years.

The time is now ripe for an inquiry, he said.

Capital punishment had in the past been specifically excluded from the terms of reference of the Viljoen Commission which investigated the South African punitive system.

Although he envisages that the death sentence will continue for the foreseeable future, Mr. Coetzee recommended that further steps be taken for greater certainty of the condemned person's guilt before the death sentence is pronounced.

Mr. Coetzee identified four areas where improvements could be made:

• A condemned person should have an automatic right of appeal to the Appellate Division.

Currently leave to appeal must first be obtained from the trial court or the Appellate Division itself.

• Abolition of the pro-deo system in regard to capital crimes in favour of an inclusion of these cases under an extended legal aid system.

Mr. Coetzee said that, currently, very junior advocates are used for pro-deo cases.

There is no attorney to assist in laying the foundation of a case or to interview witnesses.

Under an extended legal aid system a person charged with a crime carrying the death sentence would have the benefit of an attorney to brief an advocate in the ordinary course.

The scrapping of the compulsory death sentence in the absence of extenuating circumstances.

Mr. Coetzee said the trial court should instead have a discretion to decide on the appropriate sentence.

Mr. Coetzee believes fewer people would be sentenced to death if these steps were followed.

In addition, persons under sentence would be spared distress, remorse and legal costs and administrative work would be cut down, he said. — DDC.
Copyright theft a serious crime

SUE RUSSELL

The prevalence of copyright infringement and the harm it caused justified the offence being regarded as a serious matter suitable for the imposition of criminal sanctions, says Pretoria attorney O H Dean.

In an article in the March issue of De Rebus, Dean said as an intellectual property right, copyright was unique in being protected by criminal law.

Assets such as novels or music merited comprehensive protection by the law, he said, in the same way as jewellery did.

Dean said SA law provided criminal sanctions for copyright infringement but in general did not do so for infringement of other intellectual property rights such as patents, trademarks and designs.

"...this is not a ground for arguing that copyright infringement should not be subject to criminal sanctions, but rather infringement of the other forms of intellectual property rights should perhaps also be subject to criminal sanctions."
The Minister of Agriculture

72 Mr. G. M. South asked the Minister of Agriculture:

What is the plan for the improvement of the agricultural economy and development?

(a) Between 1975 and 1978, the Department of Agriculture plans to:
   (i) increase the production of wheat by 10 million
   (ii) increase the production of barley by 12 million
   (iii) increase the production of potato by 8.25 million
   (iv) increase the production of vegetables by 15 million
   (v) increase the production of dairy products by 12 million
   (vi) increase the production of livestock by 1.125 million

(b) What steps will be taken to ensure that these increases are achieved?

(c) What are the anticipated benefits of these improvements?

(d) How will the increased production be marketed?

(e) What are the projected costs associated with these improvements?

(f) How will the increased production be distributed to the public?

(g) What measures will be taken to ensure the quality of the produced goods?

(h) What is the expected impact on the agricultural sector as a whole?

(i) How will the increased production be sold?

(j) What is the estimated timeframe for the completion of these improvements?
Afraid to walk alone?

More than 60 per cent of women in Britain are afraid to walk the streets alone at night, three-quarters of people living on urban council estates live in fear of personal attack and seven out of ten young women fear being raped, according to a crime survey published in London.

Ninety per cent of those interviewed said their fear of crime had increased in recent years and only 50 per cent said they were satisfied with the performance of the police.

The nationwide survey, based on a sample of 2,078 people over the age of 15 in 173 areas, showed that burglary, vandalism and being mugged were the most common fears.

But while 60 per cent of those polled were most afraid of being burgled, almost half did not consider burglary a "very serious crime".

 Rape and child abuse were considered the most serious of crimes by 97 per cent, with armed robbery a close second at 95 per cent.

City fraud was seen as "very serious" by half the sample and shoplifting by 25 per cent.

The survey company stressed the survey covered people's perceptions of crime.

Only one in 50 of those interviewed had been the victim of any attack in the previous year and 12 per cent the victim of any theft. But this meant that almost everyone knew, or knew of, someone who had been the victim of crime in that period, which heightened fears.

When those who felt crime was on the increase were asked to blame the main causes, 74 blamed lack of discipline in the home, 73 blamed drugs, 64 unemployment and 60 alcohol. TV was cited by 45 while 16 blamed newspapers.
HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Thursday, 13 March 1986

Mr. Speaker

The Member for Goulburn, Mr. Bills, moves the following motion:

That tender for the provision of 1000 word articles in advance of the 1986 election and the provision of 1000 word articles in advance of the 1987 election, be approved for the purposes of this motion.

Mr. Speaker, in moving this motion, I wish to draw your attention to the fact that the provision of these articles is for the purpose of informing the electorate of the policies and programs of the Government and the Opposition for the forthcoming elections.

I believe that such a move would be in the best interests of the electorate and would allow for a more informed and participatory democratic process.

Mr. Speaker, I urge Members to support this motion, as it would provide a valuable service to the electorate and would ensure that the public is well informed about the policies and programs of the various parties.
SECURITY

**Crime pays**

It is a cliché of the computer industry that information is a company’s most valuable resource. However, the point is driven home by a British consultant’s estimate that a staggering 20% of computer crime in SA consists of information stolen to be sold off elsewhere. This compares, says Security Services Consultants’ Ben Weaver, with 8% in the rest of the Western world.

What, though, is the extent of these losses? According to Weaver: “Because so few South African companies physically value and classify their information before it is stolen, it is impossible to estimate what the misappropriated information is worth. It must be worth millions, but could be worth billions.”

And he warns: “Unless it can be proved in court, that a value has been assigned to information that has been stolen, it is difficult to proceed with litigation.”

It is relatively easy for insiders or outsiders (hackers) to milk computers of information even in advanced countries. But in SA, says Weaver, it is ridiculously easy. While companies often provide adequate security for computing hardware, they rarely install adequate security systems to protect their databases and flow of information.

Hackers need only a PC, a telephone, a few easy to obtain pieces of equipment and some knowledge to hack into virtually any computer.

“Computers today are user-friendly and even tell them when they are making mistakes.”

It may be some consolation, however, that there is no substance to the popular belief that there are no electronic fingerprints, so that it is not possible to investigate and detect computer crime.

“Not only is it possible, but it is also possible to identify the criminals, the asset stolen (money can even be traced) and the method used, provided a system was set up with proper controls in the beginning,” says Weaver.

Hacking is not the only method of stealing information. Computers — even your own PC, if you use one — emit radio waves that can be picked up in the street using commonly available receiving equipment. Yes, some-body out there can read your screen, store the information and even print it, without you knowing.

Further, if you have two or more computers that are connected by a network, even though the information may be well guarded within your premises, it can be picked up at any point on the network. This means that if you have one branch in Johannesburg and another in Durban and their computers are connected, that an industrial spy has a 600 km choice as to where he can siphon away all your confidential data.

Admittedly, you can fit a variety of devices to garble the transmission but that isn’t the problem. There is no legal protection — in SA a possible Data Protection Act is only in the discussion stage.

Computer crime really does have executives worried, as is evidenced by the high level of interest shown in the first open workshop meeting in 1988 of the Institute for Computer and Information Security (ICIS). Institute vice-president Graham Wright and security consultant Ian Melamed led discussion on ways and means of raising professional awareness of the problem.

One point they make is that the computer criminal can be identified only if he (or she) makes a mistake. Error is the key to detecting the crime. This means that right now, you could be the victim of a computer crime and not even know it until the criminal makes a little slip. It’s an uncomfortable thought.

Even more uncomfortable for proprietors and shareholders, surely, is that your highly-paid, super-cerebral computer fundi may happily be using your own computer system to rip you off.

And, alarmingly, it seems that the law as a whole and its judges in particular, are quite unprepared to cope with computer crime. The difficulties of reconciling existing law with new and often obscure technology are considerable. But a body of experience will be built up as South African boards of directors implement a newly resolved policy that computer criminals must be prosecuted — previously many computer crimes went unpunished.

Wright makes the important point that the insurance risks in computer fraud are considerable. Already, he says, two insurers in SA do not cover computer fraud and this move is expected to gain momentum.
AIDS-control: say doctor
Legislative brothels would aid

AIDS-control, says doctor
Legislative brothels would aid

The Angus Co-operative

The Angus Co-operative
Public violence down by 75 pc

Cases of public violence dropped by more than 75 percent in 1987 compared with 1986 while infanticide increased by 20 percent in the same time, according to the SAP's 1987 report tabled yesterday.

There were 8,156 cases of public violence in 1986 which dropped to 1,973 in 1987. However, infanticides increased by 20 percent from 69 to 83, the number of reported cases of cruelty to children increased from 1,197 to 1,227.
Nearly 27 murders a day in SA - report

By BARRY STREET

ON average more than 330 cases of assault with intent to do grievous bodily harm were reported to the police every day last year — and nearly 50 rapes and nearly 27 murders a day were reported. There were also more than 385 housebreakings into residential premises and 146 cases of housebreaking into business premises a day last year.

This was disclosed in the annual report of the South African Police, which was tabled in Parliament yesterday.

The report said the police investigated 649,921 infringements of the law last year — a 10.98% increase over the previous year.

But, the 1,418,447 cases of reported offences reflected a 2.58% decrease, and 55.81% of these were solved.

Although the police reported decreases in most categories of serious crimes, there was a substantial increase in the number of assaults and rapes.
Baptist moderator jailed for 6 years

DURBAN. — Norman Sokhela, former moderator of the Baptist Convention of South Africa, was jailed for six years in the Regional Court here yesterday for his part in a "get-rich-quick" scheme.

His two co-accused, Morris Makhaye, 39, and Victor Zondi, 42, were each fined R5 600 (or 500 days' imprisonment), plus a further 18 months' imprisonment suspended for five years.

The men were introduced to a scheme whereby dummy cheques were deposited into their bank accounts by three white men from Johannesburg. They withdrew money once their accounts showed a credit balance. The court heard that Sokhela had withdrawn R133 600 within a very short period. — Sapa

A spokesman for the Western Province Baptist Association and former president of the executive committee of the Baptist Union and the South African Baptist Missionary Society, yesterday dissociated his organizations from the trial.

The Rev Ellis André said Mr Sokhela had never held the office of Moderator of the Baptist Church of Southern Africa, nor had he ever had "365 (Baptist) Churches under his wing", as reported in the Cape Times yesterday.

The vast majority of South African Baptist churches were members of the Baptist Union of Southern Africa of which the Rev Dr R. B. Codrington was the president, he added. — Sapa and Staff Reporter

Police investigate fashion 'con artist'

Computer crimes extremely costly to SA—paper

Parliamentary Staff

CAPE TOWN.—Extremely large sums of money were involved in the commission of commercial crimes in which computers were increasingly used.

In a white paper on the South African Police, the government said that the influence on the economy of these crimes was, in general, extensive.

The white paper, which was tabled in parliament yesterday, said that commercial crime units were responsible for the investigation of complicated fraud cases, contraventions of the Insolvency Act and the Companies Act, theft of trust moneys, contraventions of the Exchange Control regulations and diverse statutory offences.

Highly specialised knowledge was essential for the members of the commercial crime units.

The white paper also said that theft of motor vehicles was increasingly being committed in an organised manner by gangs and crime syndicates.

"The techniques and methods that are applied to commit these crimes are highly specialised," the white paper stated.

Diamond and gold units investigated offences relating to the controlled dealing in diamonds, gold and precious metals.

"The influence that this type of crime has on the economy of the country in general and exchange earnings in particular is extensive," the paper added.
Industrial espionage is threat to markets

Approach has become more sophisticated

Personal protection aught to be the first priority
Security board’s selection is a moot point

LEADING SA security companies face the future of the sector hung in the balance of the ability to supply high-standard integrated security systems and equipment. A recent security seminar, however, highlighted the need for stability and predictability to boost confidence in the sector.

Sales and Marketing General Manager of AAA Security, Etienne Hazard, said the industry needed to focus on developing long-term strategies to ensure sustainable growth.

"We need to ensure that the industry is future-proofed and that we have a strong foundation to build on," he said. "This includes investing in research and development to stay ahead of the curve in terms of security technologies."
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REVOLUTION SLOWS

Cases of public violence decreased by 75% last year, compared to 1986 — indicating a return to relative "normality" in black townships. In his annual report tabled in parliament, Police Commissioner Hennie de Wit said there were 1,973 reported cases of public violence last year compared to 8,156 the year before.

He warned, however, that while the "visible violence of the revolutionary onslaught" has decreased, the level of "terrorism, revolutionary organising and intimidation" — and consequently the "revolutionary climate" — is still unsatisfactorily high.

De Wit reported that there was also a 10.5% decrease last year (from 67,008 to 59,936) in the number of motor vehicle thefts; a 25% drop (to 272,553) in "other thefts"; a 20% drop (to 4,466) in arson; a 14% decrease (to 53,451) in break-ins at business premises; a 28% drop (to 305) in offences in terms of the Explosives Act; and a 14% decrease (to 753) in offences related to insolvency.

The major increases were in cases of infanticide — 20% to 83; cruelty to children — 10% to 1,227; rape — 14% to 18,145; and assault with intent to do grievous bodily harm — 10% to 120,779.
Parents can be jailed over child sex
1986

MONDAY, 6 JUNE 1986

HA摔倒

1988

FRIDAY, 2 JUNE 1988

Inuit
Local control of policing may answer ‘crime capital’ problem

Johannesburg City Councillor PAT ROGERS, a former member of the BSAP in Rhodesia, urges closer links between the community and law-enforcement agencies.

It may be, as the car stickers suggest, that crime would not pay — if it were run by the Government. As it is, Maritzburg and Durban are the crime capitals of the world, the Transvaal averages seven murders and eight rapes a day, and security is again the crucial issue in the coming municipal elections.

Neighbourhood Watch and Block Watch, higher insurance premiums, the growth of security firms and recent calls for soldiers in the suburbs — all of these point to the seriousness of South Africa’s urban crime wave and the need for new answers, now. They may come from the Johannesburg City Council, and they may well challenge traditional perceptions of theominous role of the SAP in the maintenance of law and order and the prevention and detection of crime.

Last July a motion proposed and supported across party lines called on the management committee to approve the report and the establishment of a Municipal Police Force to assist the SAP, or “in conjunction with other Local Authorities request the SAP to train and employ policemen at the cost of the Local Authorities” for local use.

Central control view

The interim report of the Director, Traffic and Security, makes interesting reading.

Disappointingly it is stated that the Commissioner of the SAP is “totally opposed to the proliferation of police forces in South Africa and is also not in a position to train police officers-for local authorities, even be it at their own cost”.

This is out of line with Western countries, which recognise a need for community identification in law enforcement, especially in racially divided cities, and see policing as one of local government’s major responsibilities. In the South African context this need assumes a greater weight through the militarisation of the SAP by the State of Emergency and its politicisation by responsibi-

The SAP is out of line with concepts of community identification with law enforcement, says Councillor Pat Rogers.

Johannesburg City Councillor PAT ROGERS, a former member of the BSAP in Rhodesia, urges closer links between the community and law-enforcement agencies.

The report points out that the Department already has a law enforcement infrastructure which provides support for the SAP and makes scores of arrests not related to traffic offences. And it records that “consensus has now been reached and within the foreseeable future traffic officers will have the same powers as police officers”. (This follows numerous meetings between the Justice Department and the United Municipal Executive.)

Municipal security officers are not yet being considered as peace officers with full powers, but it is suggested that this could change in the near future, pending their continued upgrading and training. It is further suggested that the real problem, therefore, is a shortage of manpower in the Traffic and Security Department.

The report has been held over for further investigation into financial implications, and relevant to this is a resolution by the council on a motion by myself in November 1987, that the management committee should request the Government to allow service in a municipal police force as an alternative to national service in the Defence Force.

My proposal is not a “soft option”. The SAP is already an allowable alternative to national service in the Defence Force and the army sees fit to have national servicemen used as tax collectors and in other non-military roles, while for others a great deal of time is unproductively spent.

We simply cannot afford a continued waste of resources and inflexibility of thinking at a time when crime in the suburbs has become a major security issue.

The Police Commissioner, who expresses himself opposed to the proliferation of police forces in South Africa”, may care to reflect that what is wanted does not represent a departure in principle from the black municipal police forces (“greenflies”) already established at considerable cost.

Fundamental to the prevention of crime is the visible presence of “the Bobby on the beat”. At the very least, a municipal force could undertake this aspect of police work, leaving the SAP free to handle investigation and apprehension.

In the meantime it is the root cause of crime that needs to be addressed: unemployment and political frustration.
Power link in family murders, says prof

Family murders by Afrikaans-speaking people could be a manifestation of their political power to determine the lives of others on a national level.

More than 70 percent of all family murders occurred in Afrikaans-speaking families.

This could be because power over others had become natural to Afrikaners and was implemented in their families.

Speaking at a conference on family murders hosted by the northern Transvaal psychiatric sub-group in Pretoria last weekend, Professor S I du Toit of the University of Pretoria, said family murders were a reflection of the hopelessness which the power of self determination, and the accompanying responsibility, had caused in the country.

Research had shown the typical South African family murder very seldom happened elsewhere in the world, he said.

He said that before 1960 family murders were very rare, while in 1986 there were 27 such murders.

DEPRESSION

In a study of 21 cases, 20 Afrikaans-speaking families were involved, but a history of depression was present only in four cases.

Afrikaans fathers tended to feel they owned their families, which led to a strong misplaced feeling of responsibility.

On a national level the Afrikaners accepted the power of determination over other races, which meant they also accepted the accompanying responsibility, he said.

They accepted the right to decide on all aspects of other people's lives; a power now accepted as natural.

"It is as if the power of determination became legitimized and found its way into family life."

In a family murder the world was without a future for the parent and he was saving the children from further pain, Professor du Toit said.
Uncertainty to blame for the killings

Own Correspondent

Afrikaner Weerstands beweging (AWB) deputy leader Mr. Jan Groenewald yesterday said Afrikaners committed more family murders because of the lack of determination of their own lives on a national level.

"The Afrikaner's world view is of such a nature that he has close church, social and family ties," he said.

"In our experience, the Afrikaner's frustration is the result of a lack of political vision. It is the uncertainty of the future which leads a breadwinner to murdering his family.

"In the past, the Afrikaner had a strong sense of security which was manifested on several levels. Today, as a result of the general uncertainty in the country, we experience unemployment and competition with blacks for jobs."

"The majority of Afrikaners are blue-collar workers and it is among them that the most uncertainty is found," Mr. Groenewald said.
THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND ORDER

The Ministry of Law and Order is responsible for

- Drafting and implementing policies related to law and order.
- Ensuring the upholding of the rule of law.
- Coordinating with other government departments.
- Managing the judiciary and the legal system.

The Ministry of Law and Order is headed by the Minister of Law and Order, who is appointed by the Prime Minister.

THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Ministry of Education and Development is responsible for:

- Developing and implementing policies related to education and development.
- Ensuring the provision of quality education to all citizens.
- Coordinating with other government departments.
- Managing the education system and educational institutions.

The Ministry of Education and Development is headed by the Minister of Education and Development, who is appointed by the Prime Minister.

THE MINISTRY OF NATIONAL HEALTH

The Ministry of National Health is responsible for:

- Developing and implementing policies related to national health.
- Ensuring the provision of quality healthcare to all citizens.
- Coordinating with other government departments.
- Managing the healthcare system and healthcare institutions.

The Ministry of National Health is headed by the Minister of National Health, who is appointed by the Prime Minister.

The document also includes a section on "NOTES OF ASSEMBLY" which contains legislative proposals and discussions. The specific dates and topics covered are not clearly visible due to the image quality.
Necklacing takes a drop

Necklace murders dropped to 19 last year. In 1986 there were 306, according to a written statement yesterday by Minister of Law and Order Mr Adriaan Vlok. He said 628 persons were charged with murder over the 1986 deaths, and 120 for the killings last year. — Sapa 34
CU discount welcomes end of SA crime tide

A 10 percent thank-you discount for its householders' and private car policyholders, current and new, is being introduced by Commercial Union assurance (CU).

The country's largest composite insurer says the discount is a result of improved claims experience.

It says the "crime tide" of a couple of years ago, which brought heavy underwriting losses for insurance companies, has turned.

This is a first for the insurance industry.

Said CU's managing director, Bill Rutherford: "Precautions taken by policyholders and the work of the police have altered the adverse claims trend which forced insurance companies to raise premiums.

"A good deal of the credit must go to the forming of neighbourhood watch groups and the installation of anti-theft devices in cars.

"CU figures show that since May 1987, the incidence of household thefts has fallen almost 15 percent countrywide, while car thefts on the Reef have declined by almost 25 percent."

"This is in line with police statistics."

Mr Rutherford added: "We feel it is only fair that the benefit of the improved claims trend should flow back to policyholders."

The 10 percent discount, applying to new and existing householders' and private car policyholders, comes on top of already announced increase in no-claim bonuses on householders' policies and discounts for mature and "dual use" drivers (that means by husband and wife only).

The discount will apply from August 1 on all policies taken out or renewed over the following 12-month period.

Mr Rutherford explained: "For example, a household in the three-year no-claim group, with a voluntary excess of R500, will now enjoy a total discount of 35 percent.

"A mature driver on the Reef enjoying the anti-theft device discount will now find that discounts total more than 40 percent in addition to the normal no-claim bonus."

"We thank the public, the police and our own policyholders for their efforts."

"If this performance continues, the thank-you discount may well be extended."
The Ministry of Finance

The Minister of Finance, Hon. G. O. O. Data, M.P., today tabled the budget of the Ministry of Finance in the House of Assembly.

The budget, which was presented to the House by the Hon. Minister of Finance, is designed to address the economic challenges faced by the country. It includes measures to stimulate economic growth, reduce poverty, and improve the standard of living for all citizens.

The budget is expected to generate a total revenue of $1.2 billion, and is projected to reduce the national debt by $50 million. The budget also includes provisions for infrastructure development, education, health, and social services.

The Minister of Finance, in his budget speech, stated that the government is committed to maintaining fiscal discipline and ensuring that the budget is implemented efficiently.

The budget was received with mixed reactions from the opposition party.
Family killings: spotlight on the Afrikaners again

By Esmare van der Merwe

The family murder at Secunda this week in which unemployed Mr Johannes de Wet shot his 22-year-old former wife, his three-year-old son, and two other men — and then committed suicide — focuses attention once again on the number of these incidents in South Africa.

At a conference on family murders recently, Professor Fanje du Toit, head of the University of Pretoria's department of psychology, said more than 70 percent of the incidents were by Afrikaner parents.

Although almost no research had been done, he said, it seemed to be a South African phenomenon.

ATTITUDE TO LIFE

Professor du Toit related the high occurrence of family murders in Afrikaans families to the Afrikaner's attitude towards life.

He said the Afrikaner had been typified as "quick to feel humiliated, inhibited, suspicious" — and therefore "ego-centric in the sense of a sickly self-pity in his soul ... the profile of a potential family murderer".

"Some researchers have said the Afrikaner parent claimed to have a right of possession on his family. It resulted in an excessive sense of responsibility. "With the colonisation of South Africa, our predecessors did not massacre the indigenous population. Instead, they exerted hegemonic control, which resulted in a frightening sense of responsibility in all spheres of life.

"We take the right to decide where people of colour should live, what work they may do, with whom they may socialise — and we regard our actions as in their best interest."

He said Afrikaners blamed themselves when their well-meant efforts were rejected.

He said the philosopher Plato had suggested such forceful social and economic ordination in his "republic".

However, throughout history, governments have never accepted such a frightening responsibility.

IGNORANCE OF WISDOM

"The Afrikaner's ignorance of this wisdom is quickly catching up with him. This hegemony and unmanageable responsibility have resulted in futility.

"The circumstances which lead to family murders became a reflection of the hopelessness we have created on national and cultural level.

"It seems as if this gruesome manifestation points out the equally horrifying responsibility we have accepted for other population groups — just as noble as the father who accepts all responsibility for his family, and in the end, just as dangerous."
115 are saved.

THE State President commuted 115 death sentences between 1983 and the end of 1987, the Minister of Justice, Mr. Kobie Coetsee, said in a written reply to a question from Mr. Pieter Sool (PPP Johannesburg North).

He said 994 people were sentenced to death over the same period, 182 of them in 1983, 166 in 1984, 189 in 1985, 207 in 1986 and 248 in 1987. Of this total 593 had been executed.

Defended

Information on how many of those sentenced to death had been defended, where pro deo counsel was not readily available in the department.

As either considered was being given to providing more experienced senior counsel for pro deo defences, Mr. Coetsee said the decision as to which advocate was appointed rested with the Bar Council concerned.

Sapa
SA drug problem a 'time-bomb'

Weekend Argus Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG.—The South African drug problem is a time-bomb, waiting to explode but the authorities refuse to acknowledge its seriousness, says Dr Sylvain de Miranda, director of Phoenix House, Johannesburg's drug-treatment centre.

"While the United States has declared war on drugs, with both major candidates in the presidential election making it a powerful election issue, the apathetic attitude of the South African authorities defies description.

"South Africa is identified by the International Narcotics Control Commission as the largest abuser of Mandrax," he said.

Figures released in Parliament from the annual report of the Commissioner of Police disclose that since the mobile Mandrax laboratory was closed down last year there has been a marked escalation of the intake of other drugs.

According to the report, more than 3,715 legally prescribed tablets, including Wellconal, were seized between June 1985 and June 1986. The following year the figure escalated to 42,988.

The overall figure of illegal oral-dosage drugs that have been seized has risen from 1,092 between June 1985 and June 1986 to 58,072 in 1987.

More than 40,000 drug abuse cases appeared in court last year.

"There are no figures to indicate a national profile," Dr de Miranda said.

"The Johannesburg figures are nothing more than a drop in the ocean, yet more than 134 drug-dependent patients have been admitted to the Johannesburg Out-patients Clinic since January and more than 40 to Phoenix House in the same period," he added.

"They have yet to accept that preventive education is the only long-term solution to the problem," he said. But he praised the work of the local Drug Squad.

"Tomorrow, countries throughout the world are commemorating the International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking proclaimed by the United Nations.

"South Africa is once again ignoring it."
Crack units out to crack cop crime

By DE WET POTGIETER

THE SA Police have established crack anti-corruption units to stamp out crime committed by fellow officers. The establishment of the units — it's the first time their existence has been confirmed — follows warnings by senior Government and police officials that they will not tolerate corruption in any police or para-police force.

It also comes at a time when eight policemen are sitting on death row.

"The SAP has never hesitated in acting against the perpetrator of any crime, not even when such a person is from within its ranks," General Henkie de Witt, the Commissioner of Police, said this week.

Police in Orlando are investigating the mysterious disappearance of more than 159 firearms — including shotguns and service pistols — from the Soweto municipal police headquarters.

Several Soweto municipal officers are under investigation for various crimes.

400 DIED

Last year — when 400 people died and 625 were wounded by police in the line of duty — 11 policemen were suspended and five dismissed after investigations into irregularities.

There were 569 complaints about the conduct of municipal policemen, including allegations of murder, assault, theft, rape, malicious damage to property, culpable homicide, robbery and negligent and drunken driving.

In the first six months of this year, court cases against policemen have increased:

- January 13, a policeman who hit a man over the head with a baton and took his jacket was sentenced in the Wynberg magistrate's court to an effective 15 months in jail.
- March 6, a 17-year-old Grahamstown girl who was shot by police in 1985 was awarded R15 500 by the Minister of Law and Order in an out-of-court settlement.
- Nomble Munana was shot while playing cards with a group of friends. Witnesses said the policeman pointed his firearm at the girl twice before pulling the trigger.
- March 9, a policeman who shot and killed a 10-year-old Port Elizabeth boy was convicted of culpable homicide and fined R800.
- March 11, a number of "klikinothahele" in Maritzburg's township were dismissed following allegations of their involvement in criminal offences.

BLAMED

- March 20, 10 Lebowa policemen blamed an inquest for the death in detention of a Pietersburg reporter, Mr Makopo Lucky Kutumula, who was acquitted in the Potgietersrus regional court.
- March 30, Captain Jack the Crime and Detective Sergeant Robert van der Merwe became the first white policeman to be sentenced to death. They were found guilty of murdering two drug dealers and attempting to murder a third.
- May 5, Warrant Officer Leon de Villiers, 27, and Constable David Goosen, 27, were sentenced to death by the Grahamstown Supreme Court for the murder of a black youth during a drunken fray into a black township.
- May 10, three Natal policemen and the assassin they hired were convicted of murdering a woman who had laid an assault charge against a policeman.
- June 20, former policeman Karel Fourie Prinsloo, 21, was charged with two murders, two armed robberies and two assaults.
- May 17, the former commanding officer of the Bramley police station, Colonel Marthinus Swart appeared in the Phalaborwa court on charges of the illegal buying of elephant tusks and rhinoceros horns.
Inmates ‘tempted to escape’ through worry

Visits are key to jail rehabilitation

By Kaizer Nyatumba

Rehabilitation of prisoners in South Africa usually takes longer than it should because inmates — whom their relatives cannot visit because the prisons are sometimes far from their homes — often feel rejected, according to Mr Shimane Kumalo.

A director of the Soweto branch of the National Institute for Crime Prevention and Rehabilitation of Offenders (Nicro), Mr Kumalo said prisoners who did not receive visits from friends and relatives felt rejected, became difficult to rehabilitate and even thought of escaping from jail.

Tempted to escape

“If they do not know what is happening at home, they are tempted to escape from jail because they are uncertain of what is happening to relatives at home. When they are visited they feel loved and cared for, and further feel accepted and try hard not to disappoint their relatives again.

“Those who are married know exactly what the situation is at home with their families, and this makes rehabilitation easier,” Mr Kumalo said.

A statement by the South African Prisons Service said it had ‘great appreciation for the services provided by Nicro to family and friends of prisoners’ and tried hard to keep prisoners in jails close to their homes.

The statement said: “Although the Prisons Service places a high premium on the maintenance of good family ties and endeavours to incarcerate prisoners close to their families, this is not always possible.

“In order to ensure that over-population at certain prisons does not occur, a policy of deconcentration is applied where prisoners at prisons with a high population are transferred to prisons with a lower concentration of prisoners. An even distribution of the prison population is accomplished in this way.

“This also ensures that prisoners serving long-term sentences are incarcerated at prisons with training facilities and where they can be kept productively occupied, for example, on prison farms.”

The Soweto branch of Nicro has organised a bus trip to Barberton Prison for people who could not afford to visit their relatives there.

The trip, whose purpose is to link prisoners with their families and relatives, is scheduled for August 5 and will leave from the Soweto Travel Agency in Dube, Soweto, at midnight.

The trip is free of charge for those who cannot afford anything, but those who can are requested to pay a nominal fee for transport.
Criminals may soon be serving the community rather than crowding jails.
Usury Act malpractices widespread, says official

ARI JACOBSON

Some finance houses were involved in widespread malpractices under the Usury Act, a senior official of the Registrar of Financial Institutions alleged.

And he warned the Act was being amended to include penalties for overcharging, and to allow for retroactive prosecution.

Deputy director Herman le Roux said certain charges such as telephone and telegram expenses, and tracing and administration costs for arrears, debt payments, were being unlawfully recovered as finance charges.

His claims — vehemently denied by finance houses — are being investigated by the Attorney-General.

Le Roux said although he would not mention names, certain houses had been warned on countless occasions to stop these unlawful financial practices.

Bold claim

Three finance houses approached for comment denied the malpractices.

"To the best of my knowledge we do no such things," said Stanbic GM Duncan Reesie.

Westbank senior GM Neville Nightingale said his bank had always abided by the Usury Act.

"This is a very bold claim," said Santam Bank MD Roeland Perold. "As far as we are concerned there has been no serious wrongdoing, otherwise an investigation would have taken place."

Perold said although he believed there had been customer complaints about overcharging, these resulted from unwitting mistakes and the dissatisfaction had been cleared up.
**Briefing**

**Death has stilled the prancing horse**

Enzo Ferrari, whose scarlet cars long dominated the racetracks of the world, died on Sunday at the age of 50. All Italy will mourn the man who made the cars that symbolized Italian panache, style and zest for life.

After active service in World War I, Ferrari raced for Alfa Romeo from 1919 to 1923 before setting up his own stable. In 1929, he moved to Maranello and laid the foundations for his sports cars empire.

He once said: "My real passion was never to drive cars but to create them." A tall, silver-haired man with a commanding, and sometimes intimidating, social manner, Ferrari never lost his uncanny ability to recruit top talent.

Ferrari drivers read like a motor racing roll of honour — John Surtees, Jochen Rindt, Dan Gurney, John Fitch, Wolfgang von Trips, Mike Hawthorn, John Surtees, Niko Lauda.

Strongly affected by the death from muscular dystrophy of his adopted son, Dino, in 1956, Ferrari withdrew into a semi-retirement from public life from which he never fully re-emerged.

In 1960, Ferrari started to collaborate with Fiat on a sports car which eventually bore the name of his dead son. Dino. In June 1963, Fiat acquired a 49 percent holding in the company and took control of the sports car operation, leaving the racing team to Ferrari.

He once said of his life: "To marry an idea, to live with it all your life, to testify to it all your life is a happiness. It is even more difficult to remain faithful to a woman all your life — that is perhaps impossible. But an idea..."

His wife Laura died in 1978, after a long illness. His ill son, the second son, Piero Lardi, works at the Ferrari plant.

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**Security goes beyond a joke**

By DAVID BARKHUIZEN

Security centres are not joke. Rather, it's a difficult and deadly serious business in a vulnerable area. The stakes are high. You live.

"He's here. Where are you on Saturday?"

The question was asked of a security guard who was on duty at a large shopping centre with a pump-action shotgun and a .38-caliber revolver.

"I was at the security office, then I was on duty at the front entrance. I saw a man who looked suspicious. I followed him to the back of the building, but he disappeared.

"A fellow was standing outside the front entrance when I arrived. He looked at me and smiled. I asked him what he was doing there and he told me he was a security guard. I thought he was joking, but I checked with the security office and found that he was working for a rival company.

"I'm glad we caught him. It could have been a serious problem for the centre and the police. We have to be more careful from now on."

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**The trend is towards public places**

The explosion that rocked Hyde Park Shopping Centre on Saturday was the latest in a series of bombings in South Africa in 1988 and 1989, and is the latest in an apparent trend towards bombing public places on Saturdays.

Saturday, January 29 — A mini-limb mine exploded in Khoka, No injuries.

Friday, January 22 — A grenade blast in Ghandi Street injured three.

Monday, March 1 — A bomb exploded in Benon No injuries.

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**GRENADA**

The explosion that rocked Hyde Park Shopping Centre on Saturday was the latest in an apparent trend towards bombing public places on Saturdays.

Saturday, July 9 — A mini-limb mine exploded near the Cimarron Hacienda Club in Trujillo. Nobody was injured.

Tuesday, July 12 — Police detonated a bomb abandoned at a ground near a school.

Tuesday, July 12 — A vehicle was damaged when a bomb exploded on a road.

Friday, July 5 — A bomb exploded in the park.

Saturday, May 27 — A bomb exploded in the park.

Friday, May 27 — A bomb exploded in the park.

Monday, May 22 — A bomb exploded in the park.

Saturday, May 18 — A bomb exploded in the park.

Friday, May 11 — A bomb exploded in the park.

Thursday, May 10 — A bomb exploded in the park.

Wednesday, May 9 — A bomb exploded in the park.

Tuesday, May 8 — A bomb exploded in the park.

Monday, May 7 — A bomb exploded in the park.

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**DURBAN CINEMA**

Friday, July 5 — A bomb exploded at a Durban cinema and another in Alexandra township minutes before the film "Cry Freedom" was due to be screened. A third bomb was found in a cinema toilet at Highgate Shopping Centre in Durban before it was exploded and a fourth bomb was found in a cinema in Umlazi.

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By DAVID BARKHUIZEN

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WPPI pictures by M停

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**Well-trained security man at Sandton City man every sports car and unattended bag**

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**Our eyes and ears**

"They are our cars and eyes and constantly check on suspicious areas in town," he says.

"But we also check our security guards, who are always on the lookout for anything suspicious," he adds.

"The need for security in this modern world is critical," he says.

"At the Carlton Centre, we have a lot of security measures in place to ensure the safety of our customers. We have security cameras at all entrances and exits, and we also have a 24-hour security service," he says.

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**Who has been the most important person in your life?**

"My father," he says.

"He has always been there for me and has taught me the importance of hard work and dedication," he says.

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**How do you spend your weekends?**

"I usually spend my weekends with my family," he says.

"We enjoy spending time together and exploring new places," he says.

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**What is your favorite hobby?**

"I enjoy reading," he says.

"I love learning new things and expanding my knowledge," he says.

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**What is your favorite book?**

"The Lord of the Rings," he says.

"I have read it several times and it never gets old," he says.

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**What is your favorite movie?**

"The Godfather," he says.

"I love the story and the characters," he says.

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**What is your favorite sport?**

"Football," he says.

"I enjoy watching games and cheering for my favorite teams," he says.

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**What is your favorite meal?**

"Pizza," he says.

"I love it because it's so easy to make and it's always delicious," he says.

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**What is your favorite travel destination?**

"Paris," he says.

"I love the culture and the history," he says.

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The prancing horse

Elsa Ferrari, giant of the world automobile, was named in Italy. He revived the idea of making the ultimate racing car and was faithful to that idea all his life.

s beyond a joke

at Sandringham men every evening. On guard here are Wilfrid Shasha (left) and Matongo Mongesi. (PIctures by Karen Fletcher.

Search everyone, say Star readers

Security at public places — in particular shopping centres — is becoming increasingly serious and metal detectors should be used to check the public entering buildings. Star readers were so shocked last night.

Some readers believe, however, that

not to mention the security issues.

The system is a farce

Miss Robyn Morris, Fairmount: The security is appalling and before even the public are interested and it is as if bombs go bang, security guards should be informed. The security system is a farce. You can walk in with a plastic bag and be searched through farce.

Mrs Veronica Ebe, Morningside: I do not feel safe and I believe that the public is being deceived and it is a farce.

President M. She said to the police what we have been experiencing.

Mr Fred Breytenboer, Alberton: Without metal detectors it serves no purpose to see if the person is a terrorist.
towards public places

The explosion at Hyde Park Shopping Centre on Saturday was the latest in a series of recent bombings in public places on Saturdays.

ed at Prestatyn, injuring four.
Friday, May 27 — A bomb in Pritchard Street injured one.
Saturday, May 28 — An explosion at Johnstone Station. One injured.
Friday, June 3 — Four killed and 19 injured in two explosions in Rotherpool.
Monday, June 6 — A petrol bomb attack on a bus in D received one and injured seven.
Wednesday, June 8 — A bomb near Soweto’s Inman Street Station.
Thursday, June 9 — An explosion device blew up in a man’s hands near Halfpenny killing him.
Friday, June 12 — A blast in a Johannesberg apartment.
Saturday, June 13 — A petrol bomb in East London injured a woman.
Friday, June 19 — A bomb exploded near a market in Ellis Park, killing two and injuring 35.

Saturday, July 9 — A mini-limpet mine exploded behind the Commonwealth Hockey Club in Tufnell Park. Nobody was injured.
Thursday, July 12 — Police detonated a bomb found in the grounds of the Soweto school.
Tuesday, July 14 — A vehicle was damaged when it detonated an explosive device on a remote site in the northern section of the Kruger National Park.
Friday, July 15 — Four cars were damaged in an explosion in Cape Town.

DURBAN CINEMA

Friday, July 29 — A bomb exploded at Durban cinema and another in Alexandra township. The film “Cry Freedom” was due to be screened. A third bomb was found in a cinema toilet at Highgate Shopping Centre and Rotherpool before it exploded and in Korkman, Port Elizabeth, a petrol bomb was tossed at the cinema. Nobody was injured.
Saturday, July 30 — One woman was killed and 26 injured when a bomb went off in a parked Rambler car at Desain Plaza.
Sunday, August 2 — A mini-limpet mine exploded near the offices of Witwatersrand Command, Johannesburg. A second mine was found by police after the blast.
Friday, August 7 — A mini-limpet mine exploded after a vehicle drove over it at the Morula Church.
Saturday, August 8 — A mini-limpet mine exploded outside the Woolworths in Soweto.

Not done seriously

Miss Judith Podler, Blouberg, says it is not only possible to have more bombs on the streets but it is absolutely necessary. She says the police are not doing enough to stop the bombings. She believes that the police should be more active in their efforts to prevent these attacks.

Mr. Rudi Langeland, Belgravia, thinks that most of the shops in the city are closed and that there is a lack of security in the city. He believes that the police should take more action to prevent similar attacks.

Mrs. Helen Cohen, Killarney, feels that the men who have been responsible for these attacks are not being punished enough. She believes that the police should be more proactive in their efforts to find and arrest these criminals.

Meno public

Mrs. Helen Cohen, Killarney: I feel that the men who have been responsible for these attacks are not being punished enough. I don’t think that the police should be doing any more.

Mr. Rudi Langeland, Belgravia: I feel that the police should be more proactive in their efforts to find and arrest these criminals.

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Spared jail term to serve community

AN Eldorado Park man who was sentenced to 800 hours of community service after he was convicted of culpable homicide for shooting his stepson during an argument, this week told of the positive effects of his sentence.

The community service was speaking at a National Institute for Crime Prevention and Rehabilitation of Offenders (Nicro) workshop in Johannesburg.

He completed his service and more than 120 hours extra in April this year. He did not wish to be named.

He told the workshop he quarrelled with his stepson while under the influence of alcohol and shot him. He was found guilty of culpable homicide.

"While I was on trial I expected the worst. I knew I had committed a crime and had to pay for what I had done. I saw myself in prison."

He said the option of a Community Service Order (CSO) took him by surprise as he thought it was something "done only in other countries". He was a first-time offender and had to support his wife and stepchildren.

Nicro arranged a meeting with the Services Agency (a church) which included discussing his suitability as a CSO candidate. The Nicro recommendation was prepared on the basis that as a first time offender he be spared the negative consequences of imprisonment. It would also ensure that the family unit remained intact and he could continue to support his dependants.

This recommendation was accepted by the court and he had to render 800 hours of community service over a period of 36 months at an appointed church.

By not going to jail he could "live a normal life to a certain extent", and could continue supporting his family, the community service said.

However, "I never saw community service as a 'soft option' to imprisonment. I sometimes thought it might be easier in prison. I had got used to a certain way of life - I had to change that pattern," he said.

Often he had to travel long distances after work to do his service and his life changed drastically.

He was placed with a church under the supervision of a minister. His duties included collecting church fees, arranging functions and attending to welfare problems and visits to its aged and sick members.

The community service said his sentence had a positive effect on him - he no longer drinks and is active in his church community.
Prison isn’t the only answer

Nicro calls for ‘positive punishment’

A PRISON sentence is not always the only way for an offender to make reparations for his crime, says Mrs Tersa Verhoef, a social worker at the National Institute for Crime Prevention and Rehabilitation of Offenders (Nicro).

She said research showed 50 percent of adult offenders who went on the dole after five years while 80 percent of juvenile offenders did.

Offenders who had gone to prison struggled to get jobs and had a stigma attached to them.

This was after the offender had lost his job, spent time removed from his family and isolated from his community and friends and had come into contact with hardened criminals.

In 1988 the Criminal Procedure Act of 1977 was amended to provide for a Community Service Order (CSO) which meant certain offenders over 15 years of age could be sentenced to a period of unpaid service in the community.

A CSO was a community-based correction imposed by the court as a condition of a postponed or suspended sentence, Mrs Verhoef said.

It avoided the harmful affects of prison, benefited the community by giving free work and helped alleviate the high costs of prisons.

Furthermore, family life was not disrupted and the community became involved in the criminal justice system.

Mrs Verhoef said the CSO was a form of “positive punishment” and the sentence matched the offender and the offence.

It was aimed mostly at younger people or first and second offenders with offences such as traffic offences, drunken driving, theft, fraud, drug related offences (but not drug dealing), and manslaughter. It was not aimed at ofenders of violent or sexual crimes.

The difference between manslaughter and a violent crime was often one of intent, she said to questions from delegates.

Mrs Verhoef said no one under 20 had been given a CSO in Johannes burg. She said about 200 people had been placed in Cape Town but only 20 in Johannesburg since 1988.

However six people were placed in the last three months.

Mr Colin Ross of Johannesburg Child Welfare, who runs an after school centre, has supervised two community servers.

He said the attitude of the supervisor was vital. His servers helped after school with “prep” and sports and both had given them many more hours than was required of them.
When Mandrax was five years old, he was given a police badge and a gun, and his early years were spent on the streets. He became a master of disguise and was able to blend into any environment, whether it was a crowded city or a remote village. Mandrax's intelligence and quick thinking allowed him to overcome any challenge he faced.

In his early years, Mandrax worked on the edge of the law, using his skills to help those in need. He fought against crime and corruption, and his reputation grew with each successful mission.

As the years went by, Mandrax's skills continued to improve, and he became known as one of the most feared and respected figures in the city. His reputation was such that even the police feared him.

In the end, Mandrax's journey was one of transformation and growth. From a young boy with a gun to a hero who saved the city, Mandrax's story is one of resilience and determination.
Squad shock

MURDER!

New blow for Brixton cops as guns are seized in probe of gangster slaying
Alibis

But she stopped going to court immediately after evidence was led that La Grange and Van der Merwe were on leave at the South Coast at the time of his death.

At the time of the murder, police spokesmen faced with growing speculation — took the highly unusual step of issuing an official statement from the Police Public Relations Directorate in Pretoria, denying that there was any link between Meiring's gruesome death and the Brixton Murder and Robbery Squad.

This followed allegations that he had died while being interrogated at Brixton. The rumours after his death gained ground when an anonymous informer told reporters Meiring's body was removed by police in an official vehicle to an isolated area on the West Rand and set alight.

The informant also claimed that Meiring died of heart failure as a result of shock treatment while under interrogation.

A warrant for Meiring's arrest, in connection with a R1.5 million jewel heist at the Johannesburg Sun hotel, had been issued on the morning his remains were found under a smouldering heap of charred debris.

Although Meiring's body was killed more than 15 months ago, the formal inquest into his death is expected to be held only next month. The link between his slaying and the seized weapons is not yet clear.

What raised suspicions at the time, was the fact that FIVE tyres were never found on Meiring's body and set alight and his expensive diamond-studded wrist watch the day that his body charred could initially be identified — was not removed.

Meiring, who also ran a "strong arm" debt collecting agency, was said by friends to be the "type of man who will do anything for a fee."

"Torture"

He idolised "Rambo" — the violent character made famous by Sylvester Stallone — and modelled himself on him.

Soon after his death, police released a statement in which they revealed that he had been linked to two "necklace" murders.

He had also been accused in the Germiston Magistrate's Court of "torching" and cutting off an ear of one of his victims.

A short time earlier Mr Mhinyelwa Maphu told magistrates how he had allegedly been "ruthlessly tortured" by Meiring and another man.

But the case was dropped after Mr Maphu was found "necklaceled."

Meanwhile, morale at Brixton is at an all-time low, following the shock resignation of Lieutenant-Colonel Burger and three members of his unit last month — apparently from deep disillusionment.

The follow-up to this phase of the inquiry into his death and his role in Meiring's slaying and the seizure of the weapons, is not yet possible.

PICK 6

WITH 12-1 shots Toboggan and Oyster Rooster last two legs of yesterday's Pick 6 at Gosforth Park, two lucky punters really struck gold.

Each collected a mammoth R944 046.80 from a net pool of R903 065.

The winning numbers were: 2, 3, 3; 1, 6; 1, 10; 13, 16, 7.

Muis classic

SOUTH AFRICAN jockey Msbis Roberts won his first English classic race at Ascot yesterday.

• Muis pictured with the Queen — Page 13.

Crash kills 2

TWO women, Ursula Robert, 23, and Charmain Ma-
shaba, 23, of Graaff-Reinet, died in a motor accident near Willowmore yesterday.

Vaal pipped

TRANSVAAL'S Currie Cup hopes crashed yesterday when Natal scored a last-minute try to win 22-18 at Kings Park, Durban.

Sub disaster

ONE person was dead and 29 missing after a fishing boat collided with a submarine and sank yesterday near Yokosuka, Japan.
Police and banks probe missing millions

THE SAP Commercial Branch is investigating a major new foreign exchange swindle in which R67m has allegedly been channelled out of SA, a Pretoria police spokesman confirmed yesterday.

He said police had searched and seized documents at the office in Braamfontein, Johannesburg, of Greek businessman Dimitrios Monokandilos.

While still awaiting a Reserve Bank report on the alleged swindle, police had opened a docket on Monokandilos, said the spokesman.

The 31-year-old Monokandilos ran a one-man trading company called International Trade and Export.

Investigations by both the police and internal auditors of at least one of three banks said to be unwittingly involved in the case, were prompted by the SA Reserve Bank's exchange-control division.

The R67m, filtered out during the past year, was allegedly procured with forged import documents, according to bank officials.

Monokandilos is said to have left SA.
Anti-corruption laws are ‘inadequate’, says inquiry

Pretoria Bureau

A system of fines, jail sentences and dismissals has been proposed to prevent municipal corruption.

According to a commission of inquiry set up to investigate a property deal involving a Johannesburg city councillor, existing regulations were “totally inadequate” when it came to preventing corruption at municipal level.

The commission cleared Mr Hendrik Schoeman, a member of the management committee and a property consultant, of any improper behaviour in a property transaction involving the municipal pension fund — although it found that the timing of an aspect of the sale “may seem suspicious”.

Any councillor or official leaking confidential information in order to benefit from a transaction, or who solicits support in order to close a deal, should face a R10 000 maximum fine or a five-year jail sentence, be fired from his post and be forced to pay any sum he may have received to the council, the commission said.

It found that there was no evidence that Mr Schoeman had contravened any laws or rules.

It concluded, however, that laws governing the conduct of members of white local authorities were insufficient.

The report suggested fines or jail sentences for officials found attempting to influence votes on transactions for their own or their family’s benefit.

The commission was set up to investigate Mr Schoeman’s involvement in the purchase of the Saan building in Main Street by the Johannesburg Municipal Pension Fund.

The fund signed a contract to buy the Saan building in Main Street from Mining and Industrial Management and Investment Corporation for R7.25 million in January.

Mr Schoeman, who described his relationship with the company’s chairman, Mr Joe Berardo, as that of “consultant/client”, had recused himself from the management committee meeting while it discussed the sale.
Huge rise in SA corruption

BLOEMFONTEIN — There has been a huge increase in fraud and corruption in South Africa in recent months, according to figures released by the Minister of Justice, Mr Kobie Coetsee.

The amount of money involved in corruption charges being investigated by the Transvaal Attorney-General so far this year was R130 million, Mr Coetsee said.

This compared with the total of R113 million for the whole of 1987 and the R120 million for the whole of 1988.

Mr Coetsee said the number of fraud and corruption dockets which had been handled by the senior prosecutor in Pretoria for the year to date was 247, compared with 243 for the whole of 1987 and 220 for 1986.

In Johannesburg, the number of insolvency dockets which had been handled by the Attorney-General was 384 in the year to date, compared with 325 in 1987 and 208 in 1986.

CONCERNED

Speaking to the Free State National Party congress yesterday, Mr Coetsee said he was concerned at increasing corruption and bribery and undeserved enrichment at the expense of other South Africans.

He said he was disturbed at seeing newspaper reports every Sunday on huge cases of fraud.

Discussing a resolution relating to punishment for crimes of terrorism, Mr Coetsee told the congress that it would be a step back to the Middle Ages if punishments for crimes amounted to an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.

He said heavy punishments were imposed for such crimes and the courts did not hesitate to impose the death sentence in serious cases where there had been loss of life.

He said there were currently 31 people serving lengthy jail sentences for treason and 89 people who had been convicted of terrorism and sabotage.

Seventeen of these people were serving life sentences.
SOME corporations did not report frauds committed by their staff, preferring to fire wrongdoers rather than risk negative publicity that might follow prosecution. Witwatersrand attorney-general Klaus Von Lieres said yesterday.

In an interview with Business Day, Von Lieres made an urgent plea for the reporting of fraud and corruption in all areas of SA society.

His comments follow the disclosure by Justice Minister Kobie Coetsee this week of figures showing a dramatic increase in fraud and corruption in SA this year.

Von Lieres said there had been reports of frauds "mainly exchange control offences", involving more than R200m in the past two months alone. In addition there were a number of publicised cases of alleged government corruption which were bound to cause public disquiet.

Von Lieres stressed the difficulty in prosecuting many large fraud cases and how vital co-operation of the public was in securing convictions.

He said it was not unusual for company directors to come to see me, with their legal advisers, begging me to drop charges because it would harm their company's image.

Questioning the underlying morality of such pleas, Von Lieres said: "I would have thought the logical solution for such directors would be prosecution - to protect their shareholders' and the public's interests."

Von Lieres said it was his impression that corruption, in the broad sense, was on the increase.

However, there were a number of factors that limited successful prosecution of offenders.

Some offences, for example the over-invoicing of landed goods locally, were virtually impossible to prove in legal, evidentiary terms.

Von Lieres added the number of prosecutors and courts made available for the prosecution of fraud and corruption were determined by the levels of reported offences.

In the absence of reporting, a sudden increase in fraud cases - such as that recently experienced in cases involving exchange control offences might put a strain on small staffs of police and prosecutors, he said.
THE DENTIST in the poison chocolates case has been arrested and may now face charges of attempted murder.

He is Dr Tinus Stuhlinger of Outshoorn — the third person to end up in hospital after eating arsenic-laced chocolates sent through the post.

The other victims were lawyer Chris Taylor — who is engaged to the dentist’s beautiful ex-lover — and Mr Taylor’s secretary, Mrs Jeannette de Jonge.

The poison chocolates mystery, which has had South Africa spellbound for weeks, took a dramatic turn on Friday. Police were waiting for Dr Stuhlinger when he was released from Tygerberg hospital in Cape Town.

A magistrate was on standby in Outshoorn and the dentist appeared before him at 8:30pm on a charge of defeating the ends of justice.

He was not asked to plead and granted R4 000 bail — but as he left court police again arrested him.

A police spokesman confirmed yesterday that a man had been detained and was expected to appear in court in Swellendam this week on charges of attempted murder.

The bizarre riddle started nearly a month ago when a box of chocolates arrived in the mail at the Swellendam office of attorney Chris Taylor, fiance of Mr Stuhlinger’s former girlfriend, pretty Krynka disbarred Mrs Estelle Thiersen, 29.

She ate one and gave one to his pregnant secretary, Jeanette de Jonge, 39. Both complained of a burning sensation in their mouths and were taken to hospital and discharged after treatment.

When they did not recover they were both re-admitted in a critical condition. Mrs de Jonge lost her unborn baby as she fought for her life in hospital.

A few days later, Dr Stuhlinger also received and ate poisoned chocolates.

Prints

He landed in the same hospital, three doors away from the other victims of the deadly sweets.

In all three cases the poison was identified as arsenic. Pharmacists said it was difficult for members of the public to purchase the poison.

Police found fingerprints on the wrappings of the chocolates and on a card which arrived with the box sent to Dr Stuhlinger. On the card was a tantalizing, handwritten message: “Guess who?”

At the centre of the strange case is demure divorcée and mother Estelle Thiersen.

Mrs Thiersen, a high school domestic science teacher, spent tearful hours at Mr Taylor’s bedside in the intensive care ward.

Before the couple became engaged, she had been romantically involved with Mr Stuhlinger for 15 months. He had spoken to “friends

Estelle Thiersen
Dentist’s ex-lover

Chris Taylor
Engaged to be married

About marrying her.

The dentist was said to be “very serious” about her and had bought a house for them and her baby daughter from her previous marriage.

But two weeks ago, at the height of the police investigation, Mrs Thiersen told the Sunday Times she and Dr Stuhlinger had become just “good friends”.

She said she now only had time for Mr Taylor.

“He is all I care about,” Tinus and I are good friends but Chris comes first,” she said.

And Mrs Thiersen and the handsome Swellendam attorney planned to be married in December.

Reward

They first met at Stellenbosch University several years ago. Both had failed marriages and met again at a party.

Mr Taylor’s family, who offered a R10 000 reward to anyone who could shed light on the whole case, say they do not know if anyone is eligible to claim the bounty.

Boland police spokesman Captain Gys Bruzinaar would only say that a man had been arrested in connection with the poisonings.

“The investigation is at a very sensitive stage at the moment,” he said.
Unrest helped gangs' upsurge

Criminologist

IT WAS not coincidental that the phenomenal rise of street gangs in black townships came during the first state of emergency in 1985, Mr. Wilfred Scharf, senior lecturer in criminology at UCT, said on Thursday night.

Speaking at the annual meeting of the National Institute for Crime Prevention and Rehabilitation of Offenders (Nicro), he said the political upheavals of the late seventies and early eighties had contributed substantially to the huge upsurge in black (African) township gangs since 1985.

He said it was not coincidental that the “disturbing and phenomenal rise of street gangs in African townships” came during the first state of emergency in 1985.

The political upheavals of the 80s “contributed substantially” to the breakdown of “bonds” among people.

The detention of leadership figures meant the removal of people who would have commanded a degree of respect or allegiance.

The police alone were not in a position to combat crime and keep it under control because they lacked legitimacy and community support since they had often acted beyond their legal powers to enforce political control.

They had to resort to “extra-legal methods or problematical relations” with people in the criminal world, like shebeen owners, to learn what was happening in the community.

He praised Nicro staff for trying to involve gangs in the community and trying to avert the process where thousands upon thousands of youngsters were being drawn into street gangs.
It was no coincidence that the phenomenal rise of street gangs in black townships came during the first state of emergency in 1985, Wilfred Scharf, senior lecturer in criminology at UCT, said recently.

Speaking at the AGM of the National Institute for Crime Prevention and Rehabilitation of Offenders, he said the political upheavals of the late 70s and early 80s had contributed substantially to the massive upsurge in black township gangs since 1985.

The political upheavals of the 80s caused the breakdown of informal bonds among people which prevented them from acting as "predators", he said.

Disruption of schools, sustained challenges to the authority of the State and the detention of student leaders had exerted an influence on impressionable youths, he added.

"In the last few years the youth have taken over the political vanguard and moved into the streets because they have in a sense been disillusioned with the way their parents had done things in the past."

"This has led to generational conflict and led to more impressionable youngsters being drawn into gangs which served as surrogate families," said Scharf.
Less crime due to random searches

Crime Reporter

The crime rate in Johannesburg, Randburg and Sandton has dropped significantly since police recently introduced random "cordon and search" operations, a spokesman said.

Originally brought in to counter terrorism, these actions have also inhibited crime because whole blocks are suddenly flooded with police, who search all cars and buildings in the area.

"These operations have led to a drop in the crime rate since they were instituted two weeks ago," said Witwatersrand police liaison officer Lieutenant-Colonel Frans Malherbe.

He said a similar search in Diepkloof had led to the arrest of suspects who allegedly broke into premises in Randburg's Cresta Centre. Stolen goods worth R20 000 were recovered.
Only 13 percent of child sex offenders convicted

Weekend Argus Correspondent

DURBAN. — Only about 13 percent of offenders who sexually abused children in the Durban area were convicted in court, according to statistics released by doctors from the paediatrics department at Addington Hospital here.

Head of department Dr Bill Winship said: “Between January and June this year we saw 142 children who had been sexually abused. In only 26 percent of the cases did offenders go to court and in only 13 percent were there convictions.”

Dr Winship, a founder of the Child Protection Unit in Durban, said a major headache was the lack of medical evidence.

“We just don’t have actual physical evidence or witnesses to convict offenders. A child can be abused, but we cannot find anything absolutely definite on it.”

“So a doctor can’t emphatically say the child has been abused — although he or she knows that it has been.”

Dr Jillian Key, also of the Paediatrics Department, said in up to 50 percent of cases, where there was a convincing history of sexual abuse there would be no medical evidence.

In 1985 and 1986 62 percent of cases involving children under the age of six years had been withdrawn because the children were too young to give evidence or refused to testify.

In a further 28 percent the children’s testimonies — with or without supporting medical evidence — had been considered insufficient without corroboration and the accused had been acquitted.

The situation had not improved since then.

“Except in the unlikely event of an adult witness being able to testify that she has seen a child being abused it is almost impossible to secure a conviction in cases of abuse involving a child younger than six years.”

Dr Winship said the Child Care Act of 1983 was inadequate because it no longer found the child in need of care.

“Instead it has to be proved that the adult or parent is unsuitable to care for the child.”

In cases of child abuse he or she has to be found guilty of the offence.

“That is obviously a very difficult thing to prove.”

But Professor Mike Olmedal, head of the Private Law Department at the University of Natal, said: “A lot of people think the only solution is prosecution, but there is an alternative for cases where a parent or custodian is involved.

“A Children’s Court enquiry could be opened where the onus of proof is not beyond a reasonable doubt.”

“The child can be removed or some protective order can be brought. You don’t have to prove it was the custodian who did it.”

“Unfortunately not many lawyers are involved in the Children’s Court and don’t immediately think of it as an alternative.”

He said if a stranger was involved the parents of a child could open a civil case and sue for damages. There the evidence would be on the balance of probability.
De Pontes 'knew nothing of prison term'
Palazzolo: official tells of coercion

‘De Pontes got me to steal files’

CAPE TOWN — East London NP MP Peet de Pontes coerced a Home Affairs official into ‘stealing’ two files relating to the fraudulent applications for immigrant status to SA for Italian narcotics dealer Roberto Palazzolo, the Harms Commission was told yesterday.

Giving sworn testimony to the commission yesterday, Home Affairs official, Johan Scheffer, admitted to processing Palazzolo’s false immigration applications, wrongly removing the relevant files from the department’s head office in Pretoria and alleged they had been handed to De Pontes at the latter’s express request.

Scheffer said he handed over the files — which have not been recovered — took place in February, soon after Palazzolo had been arrested by the police.

He said De Pontes had been in cahoots with him in falsifying the Palazzolo permit applications. He had taken part in the “fraud” even after he had been told by De Pontes that an earlier application for admittance to SA by Palazzolo had been turned down by Home Affairs Minister Stoffel Botha.

Much of that was denied by De Pontes in an affidavit read into the commission record earlier yesterday, although he admitted being instrumental in introducing Scheffer to Palazzolo in Cape Town during September last year.

Scheffer said during that visit he had helped Palazzolo prepare his permanent resident permit application and had eventually processed it — even though he had been told by De Pontes of Palazzolo’s criminal status in Switzerland.

He said he had been persuaded by a promise from De Pontes that he would be appointed private secretary to the latter once he was appointed to ministerial status in the SA Cabinet — a prospect, he claimed, De Pontes had indicated was almost a certainty.

Scheffer said another reason why Palazzolo should be helped into SA was because he could have been useful to the country through his powerful European contacts — such as former President Francois Mitterrand and former French Prime Minister Jacques Chirac.

In his affidavit, De Pontes said that during consultations with Palazzolo in his Swiss prison in 1988, he had impressed on him that any application to travel to SA would have to be channelled through the SA Embassy in Bern, Switzerland.

De Pontes had initiated those proceedings on Palazzolo’s behalf and had introduced him also to Dooye Steyn, then a roving ambassador for Cisicel.

This subsequently had led to the Cisicel authorities granting Palazzolo permission to enter the homeland — which was reflected in a letter from President Louw Sebe dated October 22, 1988.

De Pontes also explained how he had assisted Palazzolo apply to change his surname to Von Palace Kolpakshenko.

CHRIS CAIRNCROSS

De Pontes got me to steal files — official

After making the introductions between Palazzolo and Scheffer, he had left every detail concerning permanent residence applications to the latter.

He also asked Scheffer for the relevant files to ensure everything was in order but that this request had been refused by Scheffer on the grounds they could not be removed from Home Af-
Palazzolo Legal Action Against De Pontis

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SA computer crime growing — expert

REPORTS that SA business lost R250m to computer crime in 1987 are extremely conservative, says UK Control Risks Group MD Ian Palmer.

"If you added another nought to that figure, you'd be closer to the real situation," says Palmer, who is in SA to conduct a seminar and a course on computer security in Johannesburg starting tomorrow.

Most companies, even if they detect computer fraud, fail to report it for "fear of bad publicity".

Citing statistics on companies, which include major US, European and Asian financial institutions, Palmer says only 1% of cases are disclosed in time to do anything about it.

Of that 1%, only 20% are brought to trial. Of that limited number of cases, only 5% result in a conviction.

"With statistics like these, the odds are about 10 000 to 1 in favour of the computer criminal," Palmer says.

ROBERT GENTLE

Quoting actual case studies, Palmer says the average computer crime costs a major company £425 000.

"The four UK clearing banks have a £100m annual fund for computer-related fraud. That fund is used up every year."

Regarding the prevailing opinion that the problem is not that serious in SA, he says crime is directly proportional to the attractiveness and vulnerability of the targets, both of which are enhanced by complacency.

Moreover, computer crime has gone far beyond simple transferring of funds to secret bank accounts and now includes fraud, extortion, blackmail and the deliberate planting of computer viruses.

Palmer says a major UK bank and a US aerospace giant recently yielded to blackmail, paying out millions in ransom money.
Store handbag searches don't ensure security

By Sue Okewa

Some Witwatersrand shopping centres have already upgraded their security systems after finding that handbag and parcel searches were largely ineffective.

Mr Neville Koen, assistant centre manager at Eastgate Shopping Centre, Bedfordview, said handbag searches had long ago been replaced by hand-held metal detectors which were most effective.

"We wholeheartedly agree with the Witwatersrand Chamber of Commerce and Industry (WCCI) who said handbag and parcel searches are purely cosmetic and utterly ineffective.

"However, while we agree with the WCCI's call for the replacement of handbag searches with special gateways fitted with electronic eyes, we must take the cost factor into consideration.

"Mr Koen said the centre had found closed-circuit television and Plainclothes Security Personnel effective as they allowed security personnel to monitor "goings-on" in the centre without shoppers necessarily being aware of them.

"Mr Koen said all Rapp and Maister centres, which included Sandton City, Eastgate, and Alberton City, had introduced a public awareness campaign.

"We hand out pamphlets with pictures of limpet mines and some basic security pointers, to every person entering our centres.

"We've also put big 'Be Alert' posters up at strategic points within our centres because we believe public awareness is just as important as centre security.

A spokesman for a northern suburbs centre said they recently introduced electronic gateways at their two entrances.

"We have found them most effective but use, the gateways which scan the person as they pass through, in conjunction with a "Beady, Eye" system which scans handbags and parcels.

At least five blasts have occurred at Witwatersrand shopping centres and business complexes in the past two years.
Police said today they were poised to swoop on scores of alleged child-molesters.

The case has resulted in allegations of abuse, unconnected with the weekend arrests, being made at Child Protection offices around the country.

In Cape Town, a Lifeline counsellor was "absolutely bushed" today after the telephone rang constantly last night.

While Lifeline is not specifically aimed at counselling victims of child-abuse, the organisation's Cape Town number was shown during a television programme which followed major breakthroughs in police investigations in the Transvaal.

**List of suspects**

Nicky Lightbody of Lifeline said the organisation's night counsellor was "absolutely bushed" today.

Detectives were being provided with many names, some of which were already on their list of suspects.

The public response follows the seizure by police in Johannesburg of a pornographic video, believed to be the first of its kind made in South Africa, involving two boys aged 12 and 16 at a house in Victory Park.

Detectives from child-protection units will soon be "kicking the doors of" more than 120 alleged paedophiles, linked to hundreds of abuse cases, said investigation co-ordinator Warrant Officer Grant Robertson.

**Car numbers**

And a special police team has collected hundreds of car registrations taken down at "pick-up" spots in several cities. This information would be followed up by detectives.

Scores of magazines and other publications on child pornography, some involving children as young as 10, were seized in swoops in Johannesburg and surrounding areas.

Fifty-six pornographic videos were seized.

Law and Order Minister Mr Adriaan Vlok and senior police officers have taken a personal interest in the investigations and are being briefed daily.

An actor featuring in a current TV series and the programme manager of an SABC radio station were arrested on Saturday and are expected to appear in court today after being released on R1 000 bail.

Police emphasised that their action was not aimed at homosexuals but at those who abused under-age children.

With the weekend arrests police believe they might have uncovered the elusive "Kobra", who told in a magazine article how he had seduced boys after giving them alcohol and showing them pornographic material.
Durr blasted De Pontes over false claims

Company Pauillon, in which De Pontes and Palazzo were the directors, was declared bankrupt. From documents the company law firm they operated as a vehicle to siphon off funds for personal use. Palazzo was arrested in Italy on charges of fraud.

De Pontes' lawyer continued to retell the story. De Pontes denied involvement. A warrant was issued for De Pontes' arrest and he was on the run for his designation as an MP.

Under cross-examination, De Pontes' lawyer admitted that the claims were clearly being made to circumvent financial regulations and hide the content of the decision. De Pontes was party to the transactions.
As Pretoria police were investigating claims of alleged sexual irregularities between teachers and pupils at 15 schools in the city, the Teachers' Federal Council (TFC) yesterday expressed its concern about reports of child molestation involving teachers.

A police spokesman said two of the allegations of sexual irregularities had been confirmed as true and one teacher had already been convicted of sexually abusing pupils.

In a statement issued yesterday, Mr Dudley Schroeder, chairman of the TFC, said that in cases where teachers were found guilty of such offences, the council would not hesitate to act in terms of the provisions of the professional code of conduct for teachers.

The Pretoria police spokesman said the child sex practices had allegedly occurred at both primary and secondary schools.

Police had received complaints from parents and pupils and the Police Child Protection Unit were investigating the complaints.

Police said boys were also being approached by paedophiles at video arcades in Pretoria. They usually took them to drive-in cinemas, where they indecently assaulted the children.

Police were investigating charges against some 15 men. — Staff Reporter and Sapa
You’ll never take me alive!

AN audacious bank robber with a reputation for charming woman victims has contacted the policeman leading the hunt for him with a chilling message: "You will never take me alive — but happy hunting anyway!"

Eddie Gouthinen, 44, remembered by his former wife, divorcee Mrs. Andrea Simon, as the love of her life, said she believed he was serious about his vow not to be taken alive. "There's no way Eddie will give himself up. He'll take his own life first," she said.

The well-known, head of the Gouthinen police force and whose name is synonymous with bank robberies in South Africa, was last seen in the early hours of Sunday when he was gunned down by police in the center of the city of Port Elizabeth.

Hunted... .Jen Laubscher, above, who served time for beating his parents to death, is an accomplice of bank robber Eddie Gouthinen, right.

"He's the first business venture failed.
Both his construction and his hardware businesses went bankrupt. He then started an agency in Pretoria and later said he was a "business man," but more than 100,000 when the teller held up.

This week, Mrs. Simon, who lives in Pretoria, said "I still love Eddie and I always will. But I want to see him behind bars."

Drunk
Describing him as "verbally and physically aggressive when under the influence of alcohol," a detective said: "Mrs. Simon said she first met him four years ago when he lived next to the uncle in a flat in Johannesburg, Pretoria.

"I didn't know about his drinking or heavy drinking at that stage. I was taken in by his personality," he said.

"He was a bit of a drunk, but not really. He seemed to have been cleaned up a bit when we first met him in Esikhawini, Durban while Gouthinen painted the town red with other women, often coming home drunk.

"Mrs. Simon said the last time she saw him was in 1988 when they were trying to contact his parents about his health."

Two on run again after being granted amnesty

Gunman models himself on tragic Andre Stander

By JANINE LAZARUS

Parole
"One female teller told me that I'd better go in a date with her because she was on the other side of the counter looking into the lobby of his gun. All women were easy prey for him."

Gouthinen managed to escape from police custody after he arrived and managed to evade police for several months before finally being recaptured.

While awaiting trial for the second time, he escaped again.

Several weeks later, the criminal was convicted and sentenced to death by the Durban Murder and Robbery Squad and during the shoot-out that followed was wounded and in a state of shock.

After serving less than 10 years of his sentence at Dennevoor Prison, Gouthinen was released on parole in terms of his amnesty by the President.

Trail
Investigating officer Detective Constable Kobus Leitekeman described Gouthinen's accomplice, Laubscher, as "a man with a wife persuading him to commit a robbery."

"He went to his wife and told her he wanted to rob the bank to help his family."

Two weeks ago, the detective got a telephone call from a man who identified himself as "Andre Stander."

"He said he was a happy hunter and said the police wouldn't arrest him again," the detective said.

Leitekeman said if no trace is found in a shootout with police he would save the last bullet for himself. "He's desperate."
OF SWINDLER
HIGH LIFE
How Iscor man splashed out on cars and luxury estate

Winner: A Runaway accountants' fees

Storm: The picture is of a man being held by a police officer.

Duke is a bus driver.

G sud: The picture is of a man being held by a police officer.

Poron: The picture is of a man being held by a police officer.

Scour: The picture is of a man being held by a police officer.

Talent: The picture is of a man being held by a police officer.

Child: The picture is of a man being held by a police officer.

By DE WET POTGETTER

NATIONAL TIMES

suits TV man

as top belle

Wedding

NOW IT'S
Iscor's runaway Romeo

From Page 1
Sunnyside and Arcadia flat blocks bought by Cornelia Investments, the company formed by the couple.

This week the penthouse was deserted.
Cornelia's son removed all the furniture and had it moved to an address in Alberton, and the only sign of her occupancy was a deputy sheriff's order, nailed to the door.

Before leaving, Cornelia told her maid she was going overseas for three months.
Her Honda Prelude had gone — it is believed to be the car in which the couple are travelling.

Perilous

Said one neighbour: "She never wore anything but the most expensive designer clothes and had huge diamond rings on almost every finger.

"I saw her often but she kept herself to herself. None of us really knew her but she and the man who visited her every day left here together on Monday morning."

As the police set about unravelling the couple's elaborate fraud scheme this week, Mrs Oosthuizen found herself in a perilous financial situation.

Her husband apparently channelled the stolen medical aid cheques through her bank account — but kept her from seeing any statements.

"When we married in 1985, Karel didn't have a bank account. He used to pay his salary cheque into mine, and later had signing powers on the account.

"But in time he took over completely, saying it was a man's job to handle the finances."

"I never saw a statement and I had no idea what was going on with the account."
Now Mrs Oosthuizen stands to lose the Verwoerdhurg house she shared with her "Jekyll and Hyde" husband.

This week, she brought an urgent application for his bequest in the Pretoria Supreme Court — but two hours after it was granted, the order was declared invalid after a separate action was brought by the Iscor medical aid fund against Mr and Mrs Oosthuizen, Mrs Pistorius and Cornelia Investments (Pty) Ltd.

Police have already recovered all the luxury sportscars, which Karel removed from his Verwoerdhurg house in the past month.

"He told me he was taking them to the garage for servicing but he never brought them back.

"Now I realise this was all part of his plan," said Mrs Oosthuizen.

The Lamborghini was found at Umhlanga, on the Natal North Coast, outside a block of flats in which the couple had bought a R150 000 unit, and at which he was seen on Monday.

Wrong

Since leaving home, his trail has led police to the Natal South Coast and back to Pretoria, where he was spotted on Thursday morning at the South African Airways reservations office.

According to the Oosthuizen's maid, he returned to the Verwoerdhurg house some time on Monday but did not remove any of his clothes or personal belongings.

"I didn't know what to think when he didn't come home on Monday night, but it was only when the Iscor personnel manager phoned on Thursday and asked where he was that I realised something was terribly wrong," said Mrs Oosthuizen.
The couple first met while at school, but lost touch until about four years ago.

"We were married six months later.

Ruin

"I don't understand any of this. Karel is a quiet, soft-spoken man, a real gentleman.

"He always treated me well, and I knew nothing about Cornelia Pistorius or the existence of Cornelia Investments.

"All I do know is that I'm facing financial ruin."

A spokesman for Iscor has said members of the medical aid scheme will not suffer as a result of the massive fraud, uncovered by internal auditors.

"Ferrems is an independent scheme and is not administered by Iscor," the spokesman said.
IsCOR employees 'not affected'

ISCO and its employees would not be affected by the alleged fraud involving more than R4.5m from the Ferromed medical scheme, an IsCOR spokesman said on Friday.

A police spokesman said yesterday that former Ferromed accountant Karel Daniel Oosthuizen, 48, who was wanted in connection with the fraud allegations, was thought to be still in SA.

Oosthuizen went missing last week after being dismissed from Ferromed in October. Routine bookwork at Ferromed — mainly subscribed to by IsCOR employees — uncovered a fraud which could exceed R4.5m.

The IsCOR spokesman said the suspected irregularities were traced and confirmed by IsCOR's internal auditors and security department, which in their normal course of duties, were not concerned with Ferromed.
Sex-abuse witnesses need protection, says Minister

The Argus Correspondent,

JOHANNESBURG — A wide range of measures to protect child witnesses in sexual abuse cases has been submitted to the Law Commission by the Minister of Justice, Mr Kobie Coetsee.

"It is evident from recent events that a need exists for urgent further protective measures in court," Mr Coetsee said in Pretoria yesterday, referring to the spate of recent cases involving the sexual abuse of children.

The measures proposed by Mr Coetsee include:

- Children be allowed to identify suspects from behind a one-way mirror, and not in open court;
- Giving evidence in an informal atmosphere, including a room other than a courtroom, or give evidence screened off from the accused or in the absence of the accused;
- Pre-trial questioning of the child be carried out by a court-appointed psychologist in consultation with the accused, the prosecutor and the presiding officer, and that the psychologist be allowed to express his or her opinion in court of the child's credibility;
- Video tapes of interviews between the child and a social worker during the investigation of the case be admissible in court and be made available to the accused before the trial, and
- A child giving evidence in such a case be assisted by a representative.

Mr Coetsee praised the courts for their protection of child witnesses in the past. A Johannesburg court had recently allowed a child to testify from behind one-way glass, he said.

He said that pending legislation also provided for the improved protection of minor children after a divorce. It envisaged the appointment by the court, or one of the parents, or a "family advocate" to investigate and make recommendations on the child's welfare.

An interdepartmental committee was recently appointed by the government to investigate ways of helping victims of sexual offences.
Child abuse: Gays fear witch-hunt

The Argus Correspondent

PRETORIA. — Police would go all-out to prevent the crackdown on child abuse from turning into an "hysterical witch-hunt", said the national co-ordinator, Detective Warrant Officer Grant Robertson, after fears from South Africa's gay community expressed by the gay magazine, Exit.

But he added a grim warning that the child protection units of the police would do "everything in their power" to wipe out the problem.

Addressing a Pretoria Press Club luncheon yesterday, Warrant Officer Robertson disclosed that 280 new alleged cases of child abuse were being investigated after police in Pretoria, Bloemfontein, Johannesburg, Durban and Cape Town received 800 telephone calls.

Well-known people

Referring to reports that police were closing in on many well-known men suspected of the sexual abuse of children, Warrant Officer Robertson said he had heard that "these well-known people feel that it is just a bluff, that we do not have well-known names at our disposal".

"I can promise you, there are very, very well-known people on our lists. And we are waiting for them, and we will get them. This is not just a threat."

Child pornography, which inevitably led to paedophilia, was also widespread in this country, he said.

He praised steps proposed by the Minister of Justice, Mr Kobie Coetsee, to protect alleged child victims in court.

"The South African Police welcome this announcement; it is a great step forward," he said.

Referring to fears by gays of victimisation, he emphasised that in many cases paedophiles were heterosexual or bisexual.

Smokescreen

"We know of perpetrators who deliberately got married as a smokescreen," he said.

"We also know that some offenders are female."

Warrant Officer Robertson appealed to the public to supply the police with "fresh" information. "Some of the information we get is years old — one victim called us and claimed she was abused by a teacher in 1935, but was punished for reporting it."

Warrant Officer Robertson said that the discovery of child abuse in the country followed the same patterns as elsewhere in the world, where concern over the nutritional and educational welfare of children led to concern over their physical welfare.

He emphasised that children should be educated about the dangers of abuse and abusers, and said that schools and certain government departments had already been approached by police on this subject.
THE age-old problem of sexual child abuse has exploded into public awareness over the past few years—finding health workers unprepared and showing deficiencies in the training of paediatricians, Prof Maurice Kibel of the Red Cross Children's Hospital Institute of Child Health said yesterday.

He was addressing a conference on contraception, sexuality and sexually transmitted diseases, organised by the University of Cape Town's department of obstetrics and gynaecology.

Prof Kibel said the child abuse team at the Children's Hospital last year saw about 400 cases of abuse. About a third were cases of sexual abuse. Between January and June this year, 87 cases of abuse were seen, of which about half were cases of sexual abuse.

Sexual abuse of children occurred throughout the history of mankind. The extent of the problem only recently exploded into public awareness.

Its signs included genital trauma and infection, sexually transmitted diseases, bed-wetting, abdominal pains and urinary tract infections.

Behaviour changes could also indicate sexual abuse. These included changed sleep, appetite and conduct, phobias, withdrawal, aggression and excessive masturbation.

Long-term effects included pregnancy, school problems, promiscuity, drug abuse and eventual sexual abuse of children by former victims.
Expert team to deal with child abuse

PRETORIA. — A team of experts to deal with the problem of child abuse is to be established, the Minister of Education and Culture, Mr Piet Clase, has announced.

The experts would be asked to come up with a strategy to handle the vast problem, he said.

Mr Clase said his department viewed child molesting in a most serious light. It would be dealt with in terms of existing legislation, he said.

“All aspects, from learning problems to problems related to the social and family milieu, receive careful attention in terms of existing policy and legislation.”

Police have received more than 700 calls in connection with cases of child molesting after recent media coverage, SABC reported.

They have also confirmed that their child-protection units were investigating several allegations of teachers having molested pupils.

They said some of the assaults occurred after teachers had asked their victims to stay after school.

The Minister of Law and Order, Mr Adriaan Vlok, speaking at an Armistice Day parade at Witbank yesterday, said police were investigating almost 300 cases of child abuse and a further 81 within family situations.

Fifty arrests had been made to date, he said. In addition, nine cases of pornography involving children were being investigated. — Sapa

Study: Sexual abuse of children ‘increased’

CHICAGO. — Sexual abuse of children has increased since the 1940s, becoming more common, more serious and more likely to be committed by an adult relative or friend of a child, a researcher said yesterday.

Writing in the journal Pediatrics, Dr John Leventhal of Yale University School of Medicine compared studies done by famed sex researcher Alfred Kinsey in the 1940s and another study done by Diana Russell in 1978.

He said the 1978 study showed a “higher prevalence of sexual abuse, a greater proportion of perpetrators who were relatives or adults known by the child and a greater proportion of serious types of abuse”.

Kinsey’s study — still the largest ever conducted on the prevalence of sexual abuse — showed that 24% of the 4,441 women interviewed had at least one pre-adolescent sexual contact with an adult male.

Russell’s interviews of 380 randomly selected women showed that 48% experienced at least one incident of sexual abuse before the age of 14.

Half said the abuse included no physical contact, but rather verbal abuse or genital exhibition. About the same percentage said strangers were the perpetrators of the acts, while 23% said family members — typically an uncle — were responsible. Twenty-nine percent of the incidents of physical contact involved relatives, 89% acquaintances and 11% strangers.

Where Kinsey found 8% of women had been victims of “very serious” abuse, Russell found 23% experienced this level of abuse. — UPI
Crime falling, but not by enough, says Vlok

Crime figures have fallen after reaching an all time high in 1986, according to the Minister of Law and Order, Mr Adriaan Vlok.

Speaking at the National Party Transvaal congress, Mr Vlok gave figures which reflected a turn around last year after peaking at 1456 125 serious crimes in 1986.

Comparisons of figures for the first nine months from 1984 to 1988 confirmed that crime levels were dropping.

He said the figure for this year was 18 percent higher than 1984 but it was five percent lower than 1986 and one percent lower than last year.

Mr Vlok gave the congress various comparisons of crime figures based on the first nine months of each year because only the January/September figures were available for this year.

- Car thefts, which had reached a peak of 50 302 for the period in 1986 had dropped to 45 183 this year. Similarly burglaries of white residences, at a high of 82 296 in 1986, had dropped to 83 016 this year. Burglaries of business premises had dropped over the same period from 47 513 to 37 598.

- Armed robbery had dropped by 3.74 percent, other robberies by 5.6 percent, stock theft by 2.2 percent, all theft by a significant 28 percent and arson by 20 percent.

Mr Vlok said crime still remained at an unacceptably high level and was a cause for concern.

The reduction in crime had not come automatically but as a result of very hard work.

Reasons included the expansion of the police force over the past few years to 194 policemen for every 100 000 people.

This figure was lower than European figures, with West Germany having 310 police for every 100 000 people, he said.

See Page 4
The million whites who carry guns

TAKING "action" against the Wit Wolve, or the Blanke Bevrydingsbond, satisfying as the idea might be, is not by itself going to put a stop to the sort of shooting tragedy that took place in Pretoria this week.

Such killings are actually quite commonplace and often the work of individuals rather than groups. Lebanon, Israel, Northern Ireland, the United States, Britain, Zimbabwe, all have had their share of them. And only recently another white South African was prosecuted for driving along a road and randomly shooting at blacks.

Since there are more than a million white South Africans licensed to own firearms, between them they own some 2.5 million guns and the Minister of Law and Order, Mr Adrian Vlok, told Parliament this year that 886,777 new licences had been granted in the last six years alone. The chances are that more people walking onto crowded city streets and starting to shoot people of a different colour will remain a hair-raising prospect, whatever action might be taken against the organised far right.

The solution is not tighter gun control either, since it is clearly impractical to try to withdraw firearms from so many people who already have them and clearly feel that compelling need to keep them. Only the good guys would be likely to surrender their weapons anyway.

The real problem, apparently unwittingly stumbled upon by some National Party leaders at their Transvaal congress this week, is a social and political climate in which there is a pathological obsession with "group" exclusivity and a continuing racial xenophobia; a milieu in which it is an accepted thing for people of one race to have rights, powers and privileges denied to people of another race.

Such ideas are essentially irrational, and their enforcement by law for decades cannot fail to distort perspectives and lead to profound anguish and upheaval when reality finally impinges.

Interestingly, the Transvaal leader of the National Party, Mr F.W. de Klerk, showed all the symptoms of having tacitly recognised this for he told his provincial congress that the Conservative Party's promises of renewed discrimination in the local authorities it won control of on October 28 were disastrous and would lead, among other evils, to violence.

But Mr de Klerk's own party is bent upon upholding an ideology which is essentially discriminatory. The major differences between its policy and that of the CP would appear to be degree rather than principle and in the case of the NP a lack of candour about that principle.

It is the height of hypocrisy, for instance, to attack the CP for threatening to again put up those offensive little apartheid boards, as Mr de Klerk and President Botha did this week, when NP-controlled local authorities themselves insist on keeping them.

In the heart of President Botha's own political fiefdom, apartheid beach signs, invariably excluding people of colour from the most desirable seashores, continue insidiously to persuade whites that they somehow are different from, and better than, people of colour.

And Mr Botha's scolding of the CP for wanting to "re-introduce" such things came across as opportunistically blathering in the light of the dressing down which he gave on prime time television to an erstwhile "brown" Cabinet colleague, the Reverend Allan Hendrickse, for disobeying precisely such a signal.

A great many of the Transvaal towns and cities where the CP says it plans to "reintroduce" the trappings of petty apartheid, those public symbols of an obsession with "group" exclusivity and of racial xenophobia, already have them - put up by councils which until October 28 were NP-controlled.

But President Botha and Mr de Klerk, inexplicably are clinging to it all for dear life.

Separate group areas; separate amenities; "group" identity; "group" powers; "own" affairs; separate/group/own chambers of Parliament and local authorities are what they proudly say is their contribution to South Africa's salvation.

Furthermore, having rendered unlawful virtually all the most powerful black opponents of this system, they defend the protection of it by force of arms against what they say is a "total onslaught".

Thus, coupled to an irrational ideology is a reflexive authoritarianism towards anything which is perceived to threaten the ideology. Repression is preferred to persuasion; threats of tough action against opponents are the order of the day; kragdadiheid has become an almost caricaturish "group" characteristic.

And above all, the rule of law has been abrogated for so long and so extensively that even judges of the Supreme Court have warned that the consequences inevitably must include a loss of respect for the law itself.

Two classic examples: During the border war in SWA/Nambia, young white men in the armed forces were twice charged by the Attorney General of the territory with the murder of local blacks and the evidence against them was extensive. But President Botha himself intervened to stop the court proceedings under special powers vested in him and no further action appears to have been taken against those concerned.

Could reasonable people be blamed for viewing such action as a condonation of violence at the very highest level of government, and a diminution of the standing of the law?

What South Africa needs is leadership that will break the cycle of violence by removing its causes, rather than simply responding to it with repression. Until that happens, all the familiar warnings from the Minister of Law and Order that he will not hesitate to act against the violence of this or that organisation will fail to reassure anyone outside the ranks of the NP faithful.
SA Row is Still Bitter 100 Years Later

President Botha... firmly opposed

President Botha's conditional promissory notes have finally been paid off in full after years of controversy. The promissory notes were issued as an extra source of revenue for social sectors, as it was more than 100 years ago. Millions of gambling bonds are lost each year to scams in the homeland and Bophuthatswana.

Staff Reporter MICHAEL MORRIS examines an old issue

The promissory notes scheme switched to South Africa's new central bank, the Reserve Bank, in 1991 to raise development capital. So far, these notes have earned about R1 million in interest.

The scheme has been re-launched as a new series of promissory notes with a return of about R1000 every three months and offers to win one million rand a year. Holders stand to win a prize of R1000 every three months and a total of R1 million a year.

There have been calls for a review of the scheme, particularly from the popular Trust and Savings Bureau, which campaigns against the promissory notes scheme. The bureau has also accused the government of failing to provide the necessary information on the scheme.

Millions of gambling bonds are lost each year to scams in the homeland and Bophuthatswana. The government has been criticized for not doing enough to prevent these scams.

In 1977, South Africa launched its own brand of national lottery, the Defence Bond Bonus. Later, Bonanza Bonus Bonds were added, and the scheme was expanded. The government has been criticized for not doing enough to prevent these scams.
The sexual abuse of children is the perfect crime, say social workers, because fear, shame and guilt frequently prevent the victim from ever telling anyone what happened.

A angry Paarl man telephoned Weekend Argus this week to say his wife, Maria (not her real name), had been abused as a nine-year-old, and that although he had reported the matter to the Child Protection Unit, they were not prepared to act on his information unless Maria made a statement.

"This is the last thing she should have to go through," he said. "Yet that man is still doing it. I know that from my mother-in-law."

But the police say they are unable to act unless they have reasonable grounds. And a social worker says it can be a positive experience for an abused person to appear in court.

The Paarl man said his wife, now 27 and the mother of two, had been abused at nine by "an old family friend."

"The usual story," he said, "he even came to our wedding. I think her parents sort of knew, but they didn't want to know, so they did nothing. This man also abused her sister, and I know of six other cases of child molesting that he has done.

"My wife only told me after five years of marriage, when we began to have sexual problems, and now she's receiving therapy. Her therapist says she should not have to face police questioning and interrogation at this stage.

But I believe the police should investigate anyway, so I contacted the Child Protection Unit and was told to go to my local police station and lay a charge. That attitude astonishes me. They just don't seem to care very much.

"We're a happy family, but this thing is hanging over us. I'm going for this guy - if I have to do it myself."

Colonel Nick Snyman, head of the CID in Cape Town, said the police could not act without reasonable grounds for suspicion.

"The problem is someone with a grudge could come to us and claim another person is a child abuser. It's very, very dangerous. We can't just 'check out' people, we can't just go to people and confront them. People have a right to their privacy and we have no right to invade that privacy - our rights are limited."

"If people have information, they must tell us and let us evaluate it and decide what steps to take. It's a lengthy procedure to get enough information to confront him. We can't act if all we have to go on is that someone thinks someone else might be an abuser. We can act only when we have reasonable grounds to believe it.

"You see, a false accusation like this could wreck someone's life."

Mr Chris Giles, chairman of the Southern African Society for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (Sascan) says the court experience can be positive because it enables the victim to face the abuser in a position of equal power for the first time. This is particularly important when the victim is still a child.

The child also sees that its accuser is being taken seriously, and that the accused is in the dock and not the child. This can clarify for the child who is at fault.

Mr Giles said occasionally parents, with the best of motives, decided not to put a child through the ordeal of a court appearance, and the child interpreted this as evidence that its parents did not really believe it.

"In a lot of religions there is a formal ritual that closes off certain events, such as a funeral. In the same way a court case can help a family and a child to put the whole experience behind them."

But Mr Giles emphasised that before a child or any victim appeared in court they needed counselling and advice. And some children simply could not handle court appearances. There were advantages and disadvantages, and psychological, legal and personal issues to confront.

"However, if the man who abused Maria is continuing to be a risk, I see no way to stop him other than for Maria to disclose it and to allow herself to be one of the witnesses against him.

"You cannot simply accuse people without being prepared to back your accusation up - your right to privacy is a fundamental civil liberty."

Child Welfare Society social worker Lorraine Doran was sympathetic to both points of view.

"The police don't intervene unless the person laying the complaint is prepared to make a commitment. In our own experience here, we know that often a child who has been abused simply cannot face going to court, it is just too traumatic for the original trauma.

"So we first let them have therapy and work through the experience until they are more intact and stronger, when they may be able to write down what happened in a statement. But they have to realise that the man will probably plead not guilty, and they will have to be prepared to face cross-examination.

"In the meantime the person may be getting hold of other children, so it's a big worry.

"But when you have a case which involves people making accusations, then the accused person has the right to defend himself. I can understand both sides. I can understand Maria's pain and reluctance, but I can also understand the police - they can't intrude in private lives without a damn good reason."

Being an adult did not make the memory of Maria's childhood experience any easier to bear, said Mrs Doran.

"The fact she has to go for therapy indicates it is still painful and traumatic. She's done well to have been able to tell her husband and go for therapy.

"It takes a strong, mature person to go public about something like that. And of course this works in favour of the molester, because a lot of people who have been abused simply can't stand the added trauma of reporting the facts."
Evidence in Ciskey Probe

Strand Courte

Missing Millions

8/14/22
Suburbs watch proves a success

There was mounting excitement at the council meeting of the Suburbs Watch this week when it was announced that the scheme had been a resounding success.

The plan, which was implemented last year, involved residents forming watch teams and patrolling their streets and property to deter crime.

Captain Smith, who is in charge of the scheme, said that the reduction in crime levels since the watch teams were formed was significant.

"We started with eight watch teams and now there are over 20," he said. "The most significant reduction has been in the number of burglaries, which have fallen by 50%.

The police have also noticed a change, as there have been fewer crimes reported to them."

Mr. Johnson, one of the residents who participates in the watch teams, said that he had noticed a difference since they started patrolling his neighborhood.

"I feel much safer now," he said. "People are more aware of their surroundings and are more likely to report suspicious activity.

The council will be looking to expand the watch teams further and hopes to involve more residents in the scheme."

The success of the Suburbs Watch has led to similar schemes being established in other areas of the city.
PRETORIA. — The Public Servants’ Association, which represents 65,000 public servants, is in the red after taking an overdraft from Trust Bank for a short-term investment scheme in the Ciskei-registered Eurobank, currently under investigation by the Harms Commission.

The chief manager of finances at the PSA, Mr. Johannes Potgieter, told the Commission yesterday that the PSA had invested R5 million in Eurobank on September 23, 1988 — the first payment of R1 million was made two weeks after the founding of the bank in June 1988.

The investment was for 60 days and would have expired on November 30, 1988. Until last week the directors of the PSA were not aware of the investment, Mr. Potgieter told the Commission.

The PSA is one of 600 investors who deposited an estimated R150 million with the bank. The investments were accepted in possible contravention of the Banks Act. The Harms Commission is inquiring into possible illegalities or irregularities relating to Eurobank Ltd, Eurotrust (Ciskei) (Pty) Ltd, First Ciskei Bank Ltd, Eurobank Investment (Pty) Ltd and Eurobond (Pty) Ltd.

A Pretoria attorney and businessman, Mr. W.A. Vermaas, has been named as the man in the centre of the financial deposit scam — the biggest yet in SA history.

Mr. Potgieter told the Commission that between R2 million and R3 million was received from members annually. R2 million of this money was part of the investment. Mr. Potgieter says he was approached by a Eurobank agent, Mr. Fanie Fanie, on June 29 this year.

He said he was satisfied with the guarantee that Eurobank was a registered bank and at the same time had a guarantee from Mr. Vermaas. Mr. Potgieter said he was also impressed with the favourable interest rates, which stood at between 40 and 60%.
Bid to fly out planes foiled, Harms told

JOHANNESBURG.—Police averted attempts to fly secretly three Chieftain Air aircraft — estimated to be worth R$5m — out of the country in contravention of a Pretoria Supreme Court interdict granted on Monday night, the Harms Commission heard yesterday.

The temporary interdict brought by the Reserve Bank prohibited assets of Ciskeian-registered Eurobank and Eurotrust (both under investigation by the Harms Commission), Verco and Pretoria attorney Mr Albert Vermaas from leaving SA.

Chieftain Aviations Holdings is a wholly owned subsidiary of Verco which in turn is wholly owned by Mr Vermaas, whose companies are currently being investigated for fraud by the commission.

Harms Commission member Brigadier Nollie Hulmes read the commission a statement of a witness who by order of commissioner Mr Justice Louis Harms may not be identified — taken late on Tuesday night.

The witness described a series of events which, she said, amounted to attempts to remove the aircraft from SA.

The three aircraft — a Lockheed Jetstar and two King aircraft — constitute the main assets of Chieftain Air. The fledgling airline also has three Cess-
Bus to take families for prison visits

The National Institute for Crime Prevention and Rehabilitation of Offenders (Nicro) has organised a bus trip for friends and families who wish to visit prisoners at the Witbank Prison next month.

The bus will leave the Nicro Centre in Mofolo South, Soweto, at 8 am on Sunday December 11.

Mrs Faith Sibiya of Nicro said no telephone bookings would be accepted but people could pay at the Soweto offices or at the Nicro office in Johannesburg.

Nicro’s office is on the fourth floor of Charleston House, corner of Commissioner and Delarey streets...

The return trip will cost R17 for adults and R10 for children.

For further information, telephone Ms Sibiya at 984-4284.
Chairman removed from Eurobank board

The Argus Correspondent

PRETORIA. — The activities of another Pretoria legal officer, Dr Eugene Berg, and his involvement with Eurobank have come under the spotlight in the Harms Commission inquiry here.

Dr Berg, an advocate, was yesterday removed as managing director and chairman of the board of directors of Eurobank in Ciskel after it was found that he withdrew R4.8-million from the Standard Bank in Bishop without the permission of the registrar of banks in Ciskel.

The money had been deposited into Standard Bank on instruction of the registrar.

The money had been invested with Eurotrust, according to a balance sheet of Eurobank.

New evidence

This was revealed to Mr Justice Louis Harms in a statement by the manager of Eurobank, Mr John Smuts, who is expected to testify before the commission this week.

The new evidence submitted yesterday afternoon adds a twist to the inquiry into Eurobank, Eurobond, Eurotrust and the activities of Pretoria attorney, Mr Albertus Vermaas, and the Verco group of companies.

In a statement read to the commission, Mr Smuts, the only employee of Eurobank, denied knowledge of the bank’s operations in South Africa.

He also denied knowledge of taking in investments from or through Mr Vermaas, Mr Berg or any other agent, including Eurotrust and its affiliates.

Mr Smuts said Eurobank had no affiliation with Eurobond or Eurotrust.

He further stated that he was the appointed secretary of the bank and that no meetings of directors had been held since the founding of the bank.

He also denied knowledge of Mr Vermaas and denied ever having met him and further stated that Mr Vermaas had never been connected with Eurobank.

According to evidence of Pretoria advocate and one of the directors of Eurobank, Mr H R Woudstra, he resigned from the board of directors this month after his colleagues at the Pretoria Bar warned him against Eurobank.

Mr Woudstra said that during June 1988 he was approached by Dr Berg, a colleague, about becoming a director of the bank.

The possibility was suggested that when the bank was established part of the profits would go towards the support of numerous Christian community projects in Ciskel.

“On only this principle did I make myself available as a director. I did not receive any directorship compensation, nor did I perform any managerial functions,” Mr Woudstra said.

No meetings

He said the other directors of the bank were unknown to him and he had never met them before, including Mr Vermaas.

In the three months that he was director, Mr Woudstra said, there had been no directors’ meetings.

A Pretoria divorce attorney, Mr Louis Shapiro, said he invested R1 639 494.50 with Mr Vermaas or Eurobank or Eurotrust.

He had become interested in the scheme because of the “rather attractive” interest rates of between 35 and 40 percent.
‘R4,8m withdrawal’: Bank official ‘fired’

PRETORIA. — The activities of yet another Pretoria legal officer, Dr Eugene Berg, and his involvement with Eurobank Ltd, have come under the spotlight at the Harms Commission sitting here.

Dr Berg, an advocate, was removed as managing director and chairman of the board of directors of Eurobank Ltd in Ciskei yesterday after it was found that he withdrew R4.8 million from the Standard Bank in Bisho without the permission of the Registrar of Banks in Ciskei.

The money had been deposited in the Standard Bank on instruction of the registrar — a condition which preceded the issuing of the banking licence for Eurobank.

The money had been invested with Eurotrust, according to a balance sheet of Eurobank.

This was disclosed to Mr Justice Harms in a statement by the manager of Eurobank Ltd, Mr John Smuts, who is expected to testify before the commission this week.

The evidence submitted yesterday added a new twist to the inquiry into Eurobank, Eurobond, Eurotrust and the activities of a Pretoria attorney Mr Albertus Vermaas and the Vero-group of companies.

In a statement read to the commission, Mr Smuts denied any knowledge of the bank’s operations in South Africa.

Eurobank scandal shocks peer

By SYBRAND MOSTERT

A PROMINENT former Capestonian and British Peer of the Realm — named by the Harms Commission as a director of the controversial Eurobank — says he is “devastated” by the disclosure of alleged irregularities uncovered by the commission.

“I only heard of the commission’s findings on the weekend, and in response I have resigned,” Lord Anthony St John said from his London stockbroking office yesterday.

“I have been placed in an invidious position,” he said.

The Harms Commission was launched by President P W Botha to investigate inter-state financial irregularities, and its terms were later broadened to specifically investigate the activities of Eurobank and several subsidiary firms.

The commission has found that millions have apparently gone missing from the Ciskei-based bank in what officials suspect was a “hubris-type” operation.

Anthony Tudor Lord St John of Bletso, who lived in Kalk Bay before leaving for London two years ago, was named as a director of Eurobank with five others on Monday.
TOP South African legal officers are among the directors and investors of Eurobank, which is at the centre of the Harms commission of inquiry into alleged cross-border irregularities.

An estimated R150 million was invested in the Ciskei-registered bank by prominent organisations, including Iceto, Santraes, the National Union of Mineworkers (NUM) and the Public Servants Association (PSA).

The legal officers named before the commission as directors of Eurobank were:

● Dr Eugene Berg: A Pretoria advocate, who was removed as managing director and chairman of the board of directors earlier this week from the board of directors earlier this week after it was found that he had withdrawn R4.8 million from the Standard Bank in Bisho without the permission of the Registrar of Banks in Ciskei.

● Mr S E Woudstra: A Pretoria advocate, who said he resigned from the board of directors earlier this month after his colleagues at the Pretoria Bar warned him against Eurobank. After a three-month stint on the board, he claimed that he had never before met the other directors.

PRETORIA. — Local attorney Mr Wessel Albertus Vermaas appeared in the Regional Court here yesterday on charges of fraud, contravening the Bank Act and contempt of court, alternatively attempted theft.

He was not asked to plead and the magistrate, Mr W J van den Bergh, adjourned the hearing till February 20.

In the light of the pending court case, Mr Vermaas may not be testifying before the Harms Commission any more.

Mr Vermaas was granted R10 000 bail. He had to surrender his passport, he may not enter any international departure venue and he has to report to police each Sunday.

Police have thwarted attempts to have three Chieftain aircraft, worth R5 million, and belonging to a company owned by Mr Vermaas, flown out of the country in contravention of a Supreme Court order.

● Lord Anthony St John: A British aristocrat and South African attorney who lived in Kaalf Bos before leaving for London two years ago. He told the Cape Times he has resigned as a director in response to the “devastating” disclosures of alleged irregularities uncovered by the commission.
● Professor Andries Oelofse of the Unisa Law Department.

The other directors named were Mr W G Haese, Ciskei cabinet minister Mr R S T Mabona and Mr S G Guzana.

● The only employee of Eurobank was Mr John Smuts, the manager, who has denied any knowledge of the bank’s operations in South Africa.

The commission is also investigating possible irregularities relating to the activities of Eurotrust (Ciskei) (Pty) Ltd, First Ciskei Bank Ltd, Eurobank Investment (Pty) Ltd and Eurobond (Pty) Ltd. According to evidence before the commission, all deposits received by the bank were transferred immediately to Eurotrust.

● The controlling interest in the trust was held by another prominent legal officer, Mr Wessel Albertus Vermaas.

Major investors in Eurobank also came from a legal background. They were:

● Mr Louis Shapiro: A Pretoria divorce attorney, who said he invested R1 870 464.50 with the bank.

Eurobank: PSA calls meeting

PRETORIA. — The Public Servants Association has appointed a firm of attorneys to manage its interests in matters concerning its investment in Eurobank, its board of directors said yesterday.

Eurobank is being investigated for possible irregularities by the Harms Commission sitting here. It was reported earlier this week that the PSA had millions of rand invested with Eurobank.

Members would be informed of the situation concerning money invested in Eurobank at an extraordinary meeting of the executive committee scheduled for Monday, a statement from the board said.

“In view of the domestic nature of the matter the board had decided not to inform members through the press.”

The PSA statement said the association would continue with all its activities including the completion of a resort at Nylstroom. — Sap
Consequently, the user of an asset which lacked taxable profits could arrange for the asset to be leased to it by a company with taxable profits. This “third party” lessor would then reduce its taxable income, passing on part of the benefit to the lessee in reduced rentals.

Invariably, the lessor would use debt to finance acquisition of the asset, leading to the further benefit of tax-deductible interest payments. (The use of debt explains why these financing mechanisms are known as “leveraged” leases.)

In 1984, a retroactive law ended the use of an unrelated party’s taxable income. Thereafter, depreciation allowances could only be written off against rental income.

In other words, if the user of the asset lacked sufficient taxable profits to absorb the generous tax allowances, it had to go to a rental company. The effect was to severely curtail the use of leveraged leases, and to lead to higher and higher effective tax rates in the banking sector, which had been active in leveraged leasing.

This week’s change (effective for new leases signed after November 18) corrects the apparent legislative oversight and again provides that a tax write-off can now only be claimed against rental income or taxable profits of the user of the asset.

The effects will be far-reaching on those who were nimble enough to take advantage of the oversight.

Uncorrected, the oversight would have meant substantial erosion of the tax base and have had the undesirable commercial effect that companies with tax losses, or enterprises not liable to pay tax, would have cashed in on a tax benefit.

The statement, issued by Deputy Finance Minister Org Marais, reads in full: “In terms of Section 23A of the Income Tax Act, deductions or allowances claimed under Sections 11(e), 11(o), 12 and 14bis in respect of machinery, plant and aircraft let by a taxpayer may not exceed the taxpayer’s taxable rental income in any year of assessment.

“Those deductions or allowances relate to the writing off of the cost of the items specified in the sections concerned. Section 12B, which was inserted in the Principle Act by the 1988 Income Tax Act, is also concerned in part with the writing-off of the cost of certain leased assets and should, therefore, also be subject to Section 23A. It has accordingly been decided to recommend to parliament that Section 23A be amended to include a reference to Section 12B and also to cover machinery, implements, utensils or articles let by a taxpayer and brought into use on or after January 1 1989 by the lessee for

**TAX AVOIDANCE**

**Officials hit leases**

Government has moved quickly to end a tax avoidance mechanism using leveraged leasing. The schemes had assumed industrial proportions, running into hundreds of millions of rand and substantially eroding the tax base.

Leased assets affected by the crackdown include machinery, plant, aircraft and — for the first time — hotel equipment and utensils.

The leasing schemes hinged on an apparent oversight in this year’s amendments to the Income Tax Act, which incorporated the Margo recommendation for a standard 50%; 30%; 20% depreciation over three years, but did not cross-reference the section restricting such allowances to rental income only (FM, November 4).
Father slashes wrists in court

KEMPTON PARK. — There was drama in the Regional Court here yesterday when a 34-year-old father of two slashed his wrists with a razor-blade after he was sentenced to six years' imprisonment for raping his 13-year-old adopted daughter.

The former South African Airways employee was found guilty by magistrate Mr. H. H. van der Watt of having had intercourse with the girl on a regular basis and against her will.

Immediately after sentence was passed, the man was found to be bleeding profusely. — Sapa
Govt plans speedy action on corruption

JOHANNESBURG. — The Justice Department is planning a “mechanism” in the advocate-general’s office that will facilitate speedy action in investigating corruption and possible irregularities, the Minister of Justice, Mr Kobie Coetsee, said.

“The swift action of the Harms Commission has confirmed that such a mechanism is possible,” he said.

Mr Coetsee made the remarks when approached for comment after the adjournment of the Harms Commission in Pretoria on Friday.

The commission is investigating the Ciskei-registered Eurobank and Eurotrust and possible cross-border irregularities.

Mr Coetsee declined to elaborate on the plan, but indicated it would be introduced soon.

There has been concern recently at the loss of foreign exchange in fraudulent deals. Witwatersrand attorney-general Mr Klaus von Lieres said that fraud cases (mainly foreign exchange control offences) involving more than R200 million had been reported to his office in a two-month period this year.

A nationwide study of corruption and fraud, ordered by the Justice Department in September, is under way.

Said Mr Coetsee: “I am concerned at the increase in the number of corruption and bribery cases in the past year.”

At the opening of the National Party’s Free State congress in Bloemfontein in September, he said corruption charges laid before the Witwatersrand advocate-general ran to R133m so far this year, compared with R20m in 1986.

Professor John Dugard, the director of the Centre for Applied Legal Studies, said there was an urgent need to deal swiftly with the increasing number of fraud and corruption cases being reported. “The Harms Commission has shown that abundantly.”

Their actions have certainly been swift and are an example to be followed,” he said.

Any attempts to expand the powers of the advocate-general’s office must be welcomed, he said.

Professor Sas Strauss, a legal expert from Unisa, commended the Harms Commission for its swift reporting to the authorities. “I applaud any extension of the powers of the advocate-general’s office. It is necessary,” he said.

The past-president of the Law Society, Mr Ed Southey, said proper staffing of the advocate-general’s office and of relevant criminal investigation departments were more important than introducing new legislation.

“The Harms Commission has certainly acted quite promptly and that is good.”

The chairman of the General Council of the Bar of South Africa, Mr Ralph Zulman, declined comment on the proposed “mechanism” until details had been released, but added that speedy investigation of corruption and fraud cases is very necessary.
Harms inquiry suspends hearings

The Harms Commission, which was due to have resumed hearing evidence yesterday into allegations of corruption and other cross-border irregularities, has postponed its public hearings.

The reason for the postponement is so that efforts can be made by counsel for Southern Sun's Mr Sol Kerzner and Cape Town's former mayor Mr David Bloomberg to limit argument on evidence over which there is, or may be, dispute between them.

Until such time as some compromise is arrived at by these legal representatives behind closed doors, it is understood the Harms Commission will be directing its efforts to more urgent issues which came to light from its Pretoria investigations into Eurobank — now the subject of an application for liquidation.

It is also understood the chairman of the commission, Mr Justice Louis Harms, will be completing an interim report shortly on the issues concerning the Ciskei and Italian Vito Palazzolo, jailed in Switzerland for his involvement in laundering money for an international drug ring.

Also the subject of this element of the investigations is the role played by Mr Peet de Pontes in assisting Palazzolo to enter South Africa illegally.

*Govt plans action on corruption — Page 7*
Two 22-year-old murderers are hanged

Pretoria Bureau

Two 22-year-old murderers were executed at Pretoria Central Prison this morning, bringing to 117 the number of people hanged this year.

A spokesman for the Department of Justice said the men were:

- Sphiwe Duma, who received the death sentence three times for the murder in September 1988 of Mr Sifuniso Dlamini (36)
- Ms Paula Mnkathi (65) and Mr Ngqovolo Memela (48), whom she robbed before killing.

-Sazi Knowledge Mdlinde, who received the death sentence for the murder of Ms Doris Margarita Jameson (37) near Pinetown in February 1987.
Call to change gambling laws

AN AMENDMENT of the Gambling Act is long overdue, particularly when government expects the private sector and the public to shoulder a huge part of the social service burden, says Operation Hunger executive chairman Ira Perlman.

Announcing details on Tuesday of the finalists' competition that will decide Operation Hunger's next "instant millionaire", Perlman asked the public to remember Operation Hunger could not have a simple draw in terms of the country's gambling laws.

She was aware that in the past 12 months, two other straight draws had been held, but Operation Hunger, which had a complaint laid against it in 1987, could not take that chance.

The finals would take the form of a cycling competition in which sporting personalities would take part. — Sapa.
Eurobank ex-boss arrested

OWN CORRESPONDENT

JOHANNESBURG. — Former Eurobank chairman and Pretoria advocate Mr Eugene Berg was arrested yesterday morning on charges of fraud relating directly to Eurobank and its activities, a police spokesman said yesterday.

Mr Berg, 42, appeared in the Magistrate's Court yesterday morning and was released on R10,000 bail. The case was postponed to February 20 next year.

He was prohibited by the magistrate from visiting any points of departure in SA — like airports or harbours — and was required to turn in his passport. He was also instructed not to apply for any other travel documents.

The police spokesman said the court appearance and bail were arranged with Mr Berg on Saturday.

Other court action relating to Eurobank, Eurotrust and Pretoria attorney Mr Albert Vermaas is expected to be brought before the Supreme Court today.

In the first case, the Reserve Bank will ask the court for a one-day postponement of its urgent interdict brought on November 21 which prevented Mr Vermaas, Eurobank, Eurotrust or Verco from accepting investments from the public.

A Reserve Bank spokesman said the one-day postponement was necessary to finish gathering information.

In another case, at least two creditors — one of which is allegedly owed R7.5m — intend to bring an urgent application to sequestre Mr Vermaas's estate.
SA Police concerned at attacks on elderly

By Norman Chandler

More than 340 people over the age of 50 had been murdered, raped, robbed or seriously injured by criminals in South Africa in the past nine months, the Deputy Commissioner of Police, Lieutenant-General Mulder van Eyk, said in Johannesburg yesterday.

"We are concerned about our senior citizens. We are concerned at the number of people being attacked, the elderly are so vulnerable, so unsuspecting." He told a media function marking the success of the Whistle Alarm campaign.

The campaign was started earlier this year by the SA National Council for the Aged, the Checkers supermarket chain and the police.

Mr Clive Weil, managing director of Checkers, presented a R25 000 cheque yesterday to Council for the Aged director Mr Syd Eckley to assist in providing services for the elderly. The money was collected from the sale of thousands of whistles at the company's 171 stores.

General Van Eyk said that the victimisation of the elderly had to come to an end.

21 murdered

He revealed that 34 people over the age of 50 had been attacked this year.

Of these, 21 had been murdered in the nine-month period ending on November 30 and there had also been 25 rapes and 213 robberies. Forty-two victims had been seriously injured in attacks.

"In 24,2 percent of the cases, entry to homes was obtained through doors left open or unlocked. 10 percent of the attackers had gained entry through open windows, while 11,5 percent had committed crimes through having gained entry by knocking on the door or through one or other trick," General Van Eyk said.

He said three-quarters of the attacks had been committed in daylight. He appealed to the elderly not to open their doors to people who could not identify themselves.

Mr Eckley said the Council for the Aged wanted to make the country's 1,2 million elderly aware of security measures they should take.
Three Soweto policemen wounded in AK-47 ambush

By Craig Kotze, Crime Reporter

Sergeant Mapole's condition is serious. A massive manhunt has been launched for the gunmen in Soweto and other areas. Police said the three policemen were shot while on a routine vehicle patrol.

Three black men, one with a Soviet-made AK-47 rifle, opened fire on them from the dark, riddling them and the van with bullets. The gunmen then fled on foot into the darkness. Security police later picked up 25 empty AK-47 cartridges. The police van was extensively damaged.

Detectives are investigating whether the gunmen were ANC terrorists, said Soweto police spokesman Lieutenant-Colonel Fanyana Zwane.

He said not only terrorists had access to communist weaponry. Criminal elements were known to have used otherwise unavailable automatic weapons, also against members of the security forces.

FAVOURITE WEAPON

Recently, a gang of tsotsis had used Skorpion machine pistols, a favourite Pan Africanist Congress weapon, in an attack on policemen. No arrests had yet been made in connection with the latest attack, Colonel Zwane said.

Anyone with information is asked to telephone him at (011) 586-6280.

Other unrest incidents reported over the weekend included:

- In Athlone, Cape Town, police used teargas to disperse a large mob of people who stoned police vehicles. No injuries were reported.
- In Edendale, Natal, a mob attacked a house and killed the driver in the head and stabbed a second man. The house was damaged.
- At Nynamalala near Edendale, a mob attacked a house and fired shots at it. A man was wounded in the arm and the house was set alight.
Vice raid: 1546 held

By ARNOLD KIRKBY, Staff Reporter

VICE SQUAD detectives and police arrested 1,546 people in South Africa's biggest and most successful nationwide crackdown on crime.

The raids took place last night in major centres such as Johannesburg, Durban and Cape Town and smaller towns like Walvis Bay.

In Cape Town, police arrested 180 people for prostitution, drugs and liquor offences in a series of raids on nightclubs, discotheques and massage parlours throughout the Peninsula.

The four-hour operation involved 70 policemen.

Police liaison officer Lieutenant Denise Benson said 42 people had been arrested in the Peninsula on alcohol-related charges, ranging from serving illicit liquor in nightclubs to minor drinking offences. A total of 15216 litres of alcohol was confiscated.

Police arrested 26 women for street prostitution and five men for soliciting. In raids on two brothels, three women were arrested.

Eight women were arrested at massage parlours for trading without licences and two men were arrested for masquerading as women.

Eleven people were arrested for dealing in dagga and nine for possession of the drug. One person was caught selling Mandrax; three were found to be in possession of Mandrax and another was detained for possession of Opex.

A gambling house was raided and two people arrested, while another was arrested for having a gambling machine. The machine was confiscated. Three pinball tables were confiscated and the operator arrested.

A person was arrested for possession of pornographic material and three others were held on publication law violations.

Throughout the country, 1,653 policemen raided 1,668 premises, The Argus correspondent in Johannesburg, reports.

Ton of dagga

Special attention was paid to clubs which sold liquor to juveniles, said a police spokesman in Johannesburg.

Detectives from 40 branches of the SAP Narcotics Bureau (SANAB) arrested 136 suspects on prostitution charges.

More than 300 suspects were arrested on drug charges; 287 of them for the possession of dagga.

More than a ton of dagga was seized, as were 107 Mandrax tablets.

Almost 120,000 litres of alcohol were confiscated — much of this on the Witwatersrand.

In Pretoria, the Minister of Law and Order, Mr Adriaan Vlok, and the Minister of Mineral and Energy Affairs, Mr Danie Steyn, accompanied policemen on their raids.

Licences

Mr Vlok said Mr Steyn had agreed to witness the raids to make recommendations to the Liquor Board, which controls the issuing of licences.

Reacting to the raid, Law and Order Ministry spokesman Lieutenant Peet Bothma said the success of the operation "overreached our own estimates".

"The lessons learned during our last raid on nightspots in Johannesburg were applied in full last night. We are really pleased with this latest success," said Lieutenant Bothma.
Policemen swoop on nightclubs

SA’s biggest vice raid nets 1,546 suspects

By Craig Kotze, Crime Reporter

Police last night raided nightclubs and other night spots across the country, arresting 1,546 people in South Africa’s biggest and most successful vice operation.

Detectives raided 1,668 premises in 19 police divisions, including Walvis Bay.

PW’s bid to halt murder trial ‘invalid’

WINDHOEK — A full Bench of three judges of the Supreme Court in Windhoek has declared invalid a certificate issued by the State President, Mr. F.W. Botha, halting the murder trial of four SADF soldiers.

The certificate, in terms of the Defense Act of 1957, was issued by Mr. Botha acting on advice from the SADF.

Four soldiers — C.J. Harnse, P.J. Herps, D.F. Esselen and J. Fernando — were all indicted for the murder in November 1985 of Mr. Frans Uepoata, a civilian resident of Ovambo.

According to a post-mortem examination performed on Mr. Uepoata, the dead man suffered a broken nose, broken ribs and other injuries after being interrogated by the four, who were on counter-insurgency operations in Ovambo at the time.

After a police investigation of the case in late 1985 and early 1986, the four men appeared in court on murder charges on June 24, 1986. However, three days later, the trial was stopped, in terms of the certificate issued by Mr. Botha.

The State President, in issuing the certificate halting prosecution, said the men had acted in “good faith” in “combating terrorism in an operational area”.

The judges, Messrs. Harold Levy, Chris Moton and Herbert Hendler concurred in declaring the State President’s certificate invalid.

Mr. Justice Levy commented that the evidence which was submitted to President Botha before he made his decision was “mostly misleading”.

Licences

Gambling was another target. Fifteen suspected gamblers were arrested.

In Pretoria, the Minister of Law and Order, Mr. Adriaan Viljoen, and the Minister of Mineral and Energy Affairs, Mr. Danie Steyn, accompanied policemen on their raid.

Mr. Viljoen said Mr. Steyn had agreed to witness the raids so that he could make recommendations to the Liquor Board, which controls the issuing of liquor licences.

The Chief Deputy Commissioner of Police (personnel administration), Lieutenant-General Malher van Eijk, spearheaded the operation.

Ministry of Law and Order spokesman Lieutenant Peet Botha said:

“The lessons learnt during our last raid on night spots in Johannesburg were applied in full last night. We are really pleased with this latest success.”

Censored

This newspaper may have been censored. We are not permitted to say when, how or to what extent.
President Botha suits newspaper for R100,000

The Argus Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG. — President Botha is suing the recently registered Vrye Weekblad for alleged defamation and has demanded R100,000 damages and an unconditional apology before Monday, the newspaper said today.

Vrye Weekblad said it would not pay any money, after it was prepared to fight the case in court. The newspaper said in a front-page article:

Mr. Botha alleges that Vrye Weekblad attacked the office of the State President and injured his character in his personal capacity.

Mr. Botha's lawyers, De Klerk and Van Gend of Cape Town, who wrote on behalf of Mr. Botha to the editor of the newspaper, referred to an article headlined "Pit, PW est die Mafias-bas" which appeared in the November 11 edition.

The lawyers said a claim of association was made between their client and the "infamous Mafias-bos Vito Palazzolo".

They said it was clear the article was aimed at, and was published with the motive of attacking the office of the State President as well as to dishonour his character in his personal capacity.

The correctness of the article was denied and the lawyers said it was "devoid of truth".

"Our client's dignity in his official capacity as well as in his personal capacity was defamed by the headline and content of the aforementioned article," the lawyers said.

The amount of R100,000 and an unconditional apology was demanded before December 19.

The editor of Vrye Weekblad, Mr. Max du Preez, said the article was based on an affidavit made by a Pretoria accountant, Mr. Clifford Frederick Bentley, which was taken by police on February 17.

The affidavit was then read by Warrant-Officer Andre Prouse at the Harris Commission in Cape Town.
The high cost of SA’s white-collar crime

CAPE TOWN — Indications are that white-collar crime is on the march in SA, encouraged by the economic, social and political environment within the country.

Yet little if anything is being done to counter the insidious impact and influence this form of crime has on society.

These are among the conclusions of leading academics, synthesised by UCT commerce graduate Nadine Bailey in an honours thesis.

Such crimes encompass fraud, pilfering, foreign exchange contraventions, embezzlement, double discount, tax evasion, bribes and kick-backs.

No meaningful research is being conducted, and nowhere can conclusive statistics be obtained on the incidence of such crime in SA.

More particularly, efforts made to determine the true extent of such crimes by researchers are frustrated by a lack of co-operation from commerce and the general public, where the tendency is to condone such practices in that they are often not viewed in a criminal context.

Bailey says researchers generally have concluded that because white-collar crime often has low visibility, the public has little real perception of the harm it inflicts.

Most researchers suggest there is a need to take more cognisance of the societal problem, for it must inevitably have far-reaching effects.

Threat

It robs organisations of large sums annually. It victimises individuals and organisations directly or indirectly involved in transactions and economic events.

It also undermines the legitimacy of legal and social institutions.

Another viewpoint is that such crimes injure or threaten important government, economic or social interests, including the integrity and effectiveness of government institutions, processes and programmes; the well-being of business enterprises, consumers, investors and employees; and the physical health and safety of the public.

Bailey regularly emphasises the fact that society moves to conceal the extent of white-collar crime in SA.

Officially, there is a tendency towards over-simplification and “bunching”, or an absence of any concentration in this area.

In the private sector, there is a lack of uniform reporting, suggesting a perceived need on the part of business to maintain an image of respectability, integrity and internal control.

This suggests society treats the stock swindler with a tolerance that borders on admiration.

Offences are dismissed as lesser forms of crime and perpetrators are often portrayed as “inventive, glamorous figures who steal only from the dishonest, the rich, or the greedy”. 
Police vow to continue clampdown on vice in SA

POLICE have vowed to continue their countrywide clampdown on vice and have warned that future raids on nightclubs and discotheques can be expected.

A spokesman for the Minister of Law and Order, Mr Adriaan Vlok, said yesterday that once all police statistics have been analysed, recommendations will be made to the Liquor Board as to the issuing of liquor licences.

The Minister of Mineral and Energy Affairs, Mr Danie Steyn, who accompanied Pretoria police during the raid, said he was concerned by the fact that liquor licence holders abused their licences by selling liquor to minors.

He suggested that patrons should be compelled to show their ID documents to prove they were old enough to enter these premises, and that the "onus of proof that the requirements of a liquor licence were being complied with, should be placed on the holder".

The statements follow Wednesday night's nationwide raid on entertainment venues during which 1 546 people were arrested on alcohol, prostitution and narcotics charges in what was described by police as the biggest raid of its kind to date. Forty narcotics and alcohol branches of the police visited 1 665 premises across the country, including some in Walvis Bay.

"The raid was not a one-off operation and further raids can be expected in the future," a police liaison officer said yesterday.

A police liaison officer for the Western Cape said 120 people were arrested in the Peninsula during the four-hour operation which started at 10pm on Wednesday.

Among those arrested were 42 people on alcohol-related charges, 26 women for prostitution, five men for soliciting and 25 people for drug-related offences.

Police also raided brothels, gambling houses and massage parlours in the Peninsula.

No one was arrested on child abuse charges in the Peninsula during Wednesday night's countrywide crackdown by the narcotics bureau, police said.

Four men appeared in the Johannesburg magistrate's court yesterday on charges of molesting children after intensive operations by the police child protection unit.

Among the accused are a 58-year-old Houghton millionaire and the Sandton Fire Chief. - Sapa and Crime Reporter.
PRETORIA. — Accountants for Mr. Albert Vermaas were kept in the dark about his activities both locally and abroad and struggled to balance books, the Harms Commission heard yesterday.

Mr. P. R. Pretorius, former financial manager for Protea Trust and Finance, which manages the finances of Verco Holdings, controlled by Mr. Vermaas, said he was often shocked and disturbed by massive sums of money spent by Mr. Vermaas in careless deals.

Mr. Pretorius testified he had resigned after six months.

His resignation letter to Mr. Vermaas stated: "It appears that you expect me to pass certain dubious entries in the books of some companies. Due to the fraudulent nature of such entries I am not prepared to continue in your employment."

He said he found problems with the management of Chieftain Air. At no stage had viable studies been made for purchase of goods overseas, such as aircraft and spares.

Mr. Pretorius said at one stage money had been approved by the Reserve Bank and sent out of the country when he discovered he was short of invoices to the value of R1 million.

He said he then telephoned a Mr. Chuck Rittenbury in America, who sent him invoices for the purchase of aircraft and spares. The invoices were vague and gave a bad description of items purchased, Mr. Pretorius said.

The accountant testified of "unbelievable" amounts of money spent by Mr. Vermaas which had not been thoroughly considered.

This included $10 million (about R23 million) for eight cargo aircraft and a further $10 million for parts.

Mr. Pretorius also described deals of properties bought by overseas investors for inflated prices.

At the end of December 1987 Mr. Pretorius said he realised after several dubious property transactions involving foreign companies that money was leaving the country in commercial channels and somehow being re-invested into SA through other channels.

The commission heard that Mr. Vermaas had a monthly cash flow of R2 million to R3 million through his personal cheque book. — Sapa
Iscor fraud suspect found hanged in cell

The Argus Correspondent

PRETORIA.—Mr Karel Daniel Oosthuizen, the accountant accused of defrauding the Iscor Medical Aid Fund of R4.5 million, died today in what appeared to be suicide.

In a statement, the Prisons Service announced "that an awaiting trial prisoner of the Pretoria Central Prison apparently committed suicide last night after he had hanged himself from a cell bar".

Mr Oosthuizen, 49, previously of River Road, Lyttelton Manor, was refused bail on Tuesday. No charges were put to him and he was to remain in custody until January 4.

Magistrate Mr M.C de Witt said on Tuesday that Mr Oosthuizen's behaviour did not convince the court that he would come back for trial if granted bail.

Mr Oosthuizen's former mistress and co-accused, Ms Corneila Pistorius, who was conditionally granted R6 000 bail, could not be reached for comment.

The incident was being investigated departmentally and by the police, the statement said.
tights come to light in 88

Year of Living Dangerous

[Signature]
CRIME - TRANSVAAL

JANUARY - DECEMBER

1988
Policeman loses bid for bail

Own Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG.—The Rand Supreme Court yesterday dismissed an urgent application for the setting aside of a certificate prohibiting bail to Captain Hendrik Johannes La Grange, who was suspended as head of the East Rand Murder and Robbery Unit after being charged with the murder of two drug dealers.

Mr Justice Flemming dismissed Captain La Grange's application with costs — including the costs of two counsels.

The Attorney General had issued certificates prohibiting bail in terms of Article 61 of the Criminal Procedure Act to Captain La Grange and his co-accused, Sergeant Robert van der Merwe, when they appeared in Johannesburg Magistrate's Court last month.

Both policemen have been charged on two counts of murder and a third of attempted murder.

It was argued on Captain La Grange's behalf that the audi alteram partem principle (right to be heard) should apply and that the captain had not been given enough information to put his case forward properly before the certificate was issued.

Dismissing the application, Mr Justice Flemming said the audi alteram partem rule applied only to a limited extent.

He said the aim of the legislator in formulating Article 61 was to prevent certain information being made known and not so much to prevent bail being granted to an accused.

The judge said the legislator obviously had in mind information which could identify witnesses.
R250 000 fraud — fined R25 000

The Argus Correspondent
PRETORIA. — A former senior South African Transport Services official has been convicted in the Regional Court here of defrauding Sat's of more than R250 000.

At least three other former railway officials will appear in court on January 25 on related charges.

Petrus Philippus Lerm, 37, of 103 Queenswood Gardens, Queenswood, Pretoria, was convicted of 37 counts of fraud involving more than R300 000.

He was sentenced to five years' imprisonment and fined R25 000.

The prison sentence was suspended for five years on condition that he is not found guilty of theft or fraud during that period.

Lerm, previously a technical supervisor at Sat's, was responsible for supervising contracts awarded by Sat's to private contractors.

Lerm and the other accused officials formed a company, Lervisco, which submitted tenders to Sat's to buy materials and equipment.

In their capacity as railway employees Lerm and his alleged associates then awarded the contracts to Lervisco.

They submitted invoices to Sat's and were paid for the goods, which they did not always deliver.

Between February 1985 and February 1986 Lervisco entered into contracts with Sat's for R23 149.02.

Sat's lost R230 349.13.

The court accepted that Lerm was subordinate to the others and was led in committing the crime.

Lerm had paid back the R70 120.
Agency owner fleeces the poor

Pat Devereaux
Star Line

An employment agency which has lured hundreds of unemployed people to its doors promising to secure jobs for a fee has disappeared with the work-seekers' money.

The agency, owned by Soweto businessman Mr. Junior Ngubeni, operated under the names of SA Employment Representative Council and later Funda Employment Training College.

In the past three months the bogus employment agency has moved its offices at least twice.

Mr. Ngubeni's business first attracted Star Line's attention in October last year when Mrs. Lorraine Moloi said she had paid R50 deposit to the Funda Employment Training College at their Bree Street premises in Debeere House.

But she did not get any of the training promised to her.

The director of the Education Information Centre, Mr. Marion McNair, tried in vain to get Mrs. Moloi's money back.

She then called Star Line.

Investigating further complaints in December last year, the reporter found the agency had moved to Ascot Mansions in Von Wielligh Street.

The entrance to the building was so crowded with eager job seekers that it was impossible to get into the offices.

ID CARDS

Job seekers coming out of the building told Star Line they had paid R9 to register with the firm and were told to collect identity cards, bearing the agency name, the following week.

They said they were told this would allow them to get a full salary at the end of the month.

This week a reporter once more went to the agency's premises in an attempt to speak to Mr. Ngubeni but found the agency had disappeared.

An employee at the agents for Ascot mansions last week said Mr. Ngubeni's agency had been evicted as he had failed to pay rent.
POTCHEFSTROOM — Lawyers acting for former deputy minister of co-operation and land affairs Hennie van der Walt will not appeal against the effective five-year jail term he began yesterday.

Van der Walt, 52, was sentenced here by regional court magistrate Mr PAJ Kotze yesterday to 10 years' jail, half of which was suspended, for financial and land transactions he conducted on behalf of clients while he practised as a lawyer at Sannieshoef from 1970.

He originally faced 29 counts of fraud, alternatively theft. He admitted 15 counts of theft, of which the court convicted him.

Delivering a one-hour verdict, in the presence of the Speaker of the House of Assembly, Mr Louis le Grange, and Conservative Party MP Mr Ferdi Hartzenberg, Mr Kotze said there were mitigating circumstances. Van der Walt had fallen from a position of prestige in society, and had lost both his political and legal careers.

He said Van der Walt was ill with diabetes and had shown remorse for his crime. However, the court had to consider that the crimes were committed over many years and the interests of the community had to be considered.

He said Van der Walt could not have stolen the estimated R800 000 because of any financial need. The nature of the crime was such that a long prison term was warranted.

A legal spokesman for Van der Walt said yesterday there would be no appeal against the sentence. When the sentence was handed down Van der Walt shook hands briefly with Mr Le Grange and friends.
Damehin makes it easy
GABORONE — Mr Zola Mahobe, the former owner of the Mamelodi Sundowns soccer club, was not arrested in South Africa but in Gaborone, where police found him hiding in a wardrobe, according to a Botswana newspaper yesterday.

He is said to have been handed to the SAP by the Botswana authorities.

Mr Mahobe was reported last week to have been arrested on Friday in Zeerust in the Western Transvaal. He appeared in the Johannesburg Magistrate's Court on Monday in connection with allegations of fraud involving about R10-million.

The case relates to the alleged theft through computer manipulation of money from the Standard Bank.

The Gaborone Gazette has reported that it was told by unnamed police sources that Mr Mahobe was arrested in Gaborone on Friday after Botswana police received a tip-off.

They went to a house in Gaborone's Tsholofelo suburb and found him hiding in a wardrobe. He was handed over to the South African Police on Sunday, the source was quoted as saying.
Fewer deaths by murder in Soweto in '87

By Montshiwa Moroke

Despite the disturbing weekend crime figures reported by Soweto divisional police headquarters every Monday, the number of people murdered in the sprawling township dropped dramatically last year.

A total of 1,136 people were murdered in Soweto last year, which was 1,508 fewer than in 1986.

These figures were released to The Star by the new divisional CID officer for Soweto, Brigadier G van Zyl, this week.

They do not include political or unrest-related killings which are released by the Directorate of Public Relations of the SAP in Pretoria.

Brigadier van Zyl said 288 of the violent deaths were caused by firearms, an increase of 32 firearm-related deaths last year. The highest figure recorded was in March when 39 people were fatally shot.

More and more women and young girls fell victim to rapists, particularly in the veld or in their homes.

A continuing problem in Soweto crime was armed robberies, which, at 633, were only four less than in the previous year.

MORE BURGLARIES REPORTED

The worst month was August with 85 armed robberies. A total of 290 illegal firearms was recovered in 1987.

The biggest increase in crime last year was the number of burglaries, especially house-breakings, which increased in the closing months of the year. A total of 2,242 burglaries was reported on business and private homes.

Crime figures released for 1987 were:

- 1,130 murders compared to 2,638 in 1986.
- 288 murders by firearms compared to 256 in 1986.
- 633 armed robberies compared to 637 in 1986.
- 1,509 cases of rape compared to 1,212 in 1986, an increase of 297.
- 1,156 cars stolen compared to 778 in 1986, a decrease of 227. November was the highest, with 154 cars stolen.

A total of 2,832 stolen cars was recovered by the police, the best month being September with 279 recoveries.
Cowboys don't cry

By Ali Mphaki

BRIGADIER J J Viktor is back in town and Soweto thugs will be better off with their weapons locked away.

The tough-as-nails Commissioner of the Police in Soweto — "my motto is cowboys don't cry" — says he's a man with a mission: to stamp out crime in Soweto.

"I maintain that anybody who opts for a life of crime should expect no mercy from the law," says Brig Viktor who started his new beat at the beginning of this month. His previous stint in Soweto was between 1982 and 1985 as CID chief of Soweto, Lenasia and Eldorado Park.

"If anybody wants to play cowboys, they must not cry when caught," said the Brigadier.

Of his new assignment he said: "The first priority is policing the area. Then I will take a look at the force to see whether any changes can be implemented."

He will concentrate on crimes of violence because "ordinary crime is not too high."

"I intend seeing to it that residents' complaints on crime are attended to quickly," he added. "The first priority is policing the area. Then I will take a look at the force to see whether any changes can be implemented." He will concentrate on crimes of violence because "ordinary crime is not too high."

"But since I have only been here for a few days, I have been able to convince the residents of Soweto that the police are there for them," he said.

Brig Viktor was not available for comment.

Professional

Brig Viktor did not want to go much into his intentions: "I have worked in Soweto before but I want to be judged after I have completed my job as a brigadier." He said he was more concerned with the actual work at hand. He has been with the police force for 41 years.

He said he does not have any hobbies because his job has been his main hobby. He has been with the police force for 41 years.

Prior to working in Soweto he was in the Security Branch. When he left Soweto in 1986 he worked at the SAP headquarters in Pretoria where he worked second-in-charge of counter-assault and riot control.

"I have never had any interest in anything else except my job. If you want to do your job properly you have to concentrate on it. To me being a policeman is a way of life," he said.

Brigadier Viktor has three children from his previous marriage. His son is a Captain in the CID in Pretoria. His two daughters are both married.

am he will not allow anyone who arrives even a minute late.

"You reporters always complain about deadlines and I also have my deadlines. If you are not here on time do not bother coming," he would say.

Brig Viktor refused to talk about his religious convictions and politics, adding that he was only a policeman.

Among journalists the man is notorious for punctuality. If he calls a Press conference for 8.30 am he will not allow anyone who arrives even a minute late.
"Viva Zola" as Mahobe leaves court

By Bruce Anderson

Spectators in a Johannesburg Regional Court raised their fists and shouted "Viva Zola" yesterday as former Mamelodi Sundowns soccer club boss Mr Zola Mahobe was led to the cells after appearing briefly in connection with allegations of fraud totalling R10 million.

Mr Mahobe (34) was not asked to plead and will be held in custody until his next appearance on March 16 when a date for his trial will be set.

Two hours before Mr Mahobe appeared more than 200 people crowded around the court.

As Mr Mahobe walked into the dock, magistrate J G Esterhuizen threatened to clear the court if the large crowd did not behave.

Mr Mahobe's girlfriend and alleged accomplice, Miss Snowey Mothesho (29), was last year sentenced to 10 years' jail.

Mr T Sechel appeared for the State and Mr W Siriti for Mr Mahobe.
African Bank manager found little co-operation

Officials wanted to keep reserves secret

TWO former African Bank officials, alleged to have been involved in unlawful financial-rand transactions resulting in profits of about R100m, asked a general manager in the bank's corporate division whether there was a way to create hidden reserves in the bank which would not be obvious to anyone wanting to see them.

That evidence was given before the Rand Supreme Court yesterday by the African Bank's general manager of the corporate division, Martin Prinsloo.

Impression

He said he had got the impression the two officials, Alan Young and Henry Harper, were reluctant to have the bank's auditors able to determine the extent of hidden reserves.

Young, 36, Harper, 43, Arthur Ferreira, 40, and the African Bank have all pleaded not guilty to 420 charges of fraud and contraventions of the exchange-control regulations arising out of alleged unlawful financial-rand transactions.

The state alleges these transactions led to $119m unlawfully leaving the country.

Prinsloo said when he joined the bank in April 1986, Young told him the forex dealers were employed on a profit-sharing basis.

Prinsloo said: "During the latter part of April there were rumours going around the market that African Bank dealers were being paid extraordinary amounts in commissions."

He asked a subordinate about the commissions. She confirmed them but was not prepared to disclose the information because she had been instructed not to discuss the matter with him.

Prinsloo said: "I approached Young about that and explained to him that as chief accountant in charge of the bank's accounting and book-keeping, I found it somewhat unacceptable that one of my subordinates had information regarding salaries and that information was denied to me.

"Young merely confirmed that commissions were substantial."

Prinsloo said Young explained the bank got 51% of all profits and 49% went to Afsek CC and the forex dealers were paid out of the close corporation.

After Harper and Young asked him about the hidden reserves, he had undertaken to consult a top accountant. "As far as I can recall, I was quite categorical there was no way to create hidden reserves so the auditors could not have access to them."

Prinsloo said the Reserve Bank inquiry which led to the police investigation into African Bank was on May 16. At that stage, he was not aware the bank was doing financial-rand transactions with Smith New Court of London.

Retrenched

Prinsloo also told the court that after one of forex officials, Pierre de Robillard, was retrenched after the withdrawal of the bank's forex licence, he took over his office.

While he and another employee were clearing out the office, they found forex deal advice notes in a cupboard wrapped in a telex.

Prinsloo said after no trace of the transactions could be found at African Bank or Santam Bank, he notified the Reserve Bank and the Commercial Branch and the documents were handed over to the police.

The trial continues.
Train fares won’t go up this year

MAHOBE BAIL PLEA DATE SET

THE bail application on behalf of former Mamelodi Sundowns Football Club boss, Mr Zola Mahobe, was yesterday set for March 16 in the Johannesburg Magistrate’s Court.

Mr Mahobe (31), charged with fraud involving millions of rand was arrested about a month ago after being a fugitive for many months.

His girlfriend, Miss Snowy Moshoeshoe (29), was last year sentenced to 10 years’ imprisonment on 129 charges involving R7.7 million.

Miss Moshoeshoe worked as a clerk at the Selby, Johannesburg branch of the Standard Bank.
‘People’s court sent armed men for me’

By Bruce Anderson

A group of youths armed with sjamboks and pangas arrived at a man’s Soweto home and
allegedly forced him to attend a sitting of a “people’s court”, a Johannesburg Regional Court
heard yesterday.

The evidence was
given during the trial of
five Soweto men appear-
ing on one charge of sedi-
tion, four of assault, four
of intimidation and two
of kidnapping.

Appearing in court
were Mr Alfred Ntshilo-
lele (61), Mr Joseph Modi-
bedi (19), Mr Joseph
Ntsolengoe (21), Mr Ezekiel
Mothamana (23) and
Mr Elias Khetha (19). The
men have pleaded not
guilty to all charges.

YOUTH CLUB

The State alleges that
the group held people’s
courts at the Inkanyazi
Youth Club in Moroka
North on 10 dates during
March, July and August
of 1986.

Yesterday, a State wit-
ness, Mr Mdeni Ncube,
told the court he had re-
ceived a letter on August
5 requesting his presence
at the Inkanyazi Youth
Club on August 10.

He ignored the letter
and at 9.00am on August
10 a group of 10 youths
armed with sjamboks
and pangas arrived at his
home and forced him to
accompany them to the
club.

He was brought before
seven men.

One of the accused, Mr
Ntshilele, asked him why
he was not caring for his
children.

Mr Ntshilele was ap-
parently referring to two
children Mr Ncube had
had with a Miss Stella Vil-
lkazi.

Mr Ncube said he
agreed to pay R100 to
Miss Villikazi every
month as maintenance.

Mr Ncube was asked
by Mr Nowathob Singh, for
the accused, if he had
heard of a “makgotla” —
a gathering of senior
members of the community. Mr Ncube said he
had never heard it.

The accused have been
released on bail of R1,000
with the exception of Mr
Modibedi, who is on
warning.

The hearing resumes
on March 7.
Soweto has highest rate of violent crime

10 000 vehicles stolen in Jo’burg last year

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY — More than 10 000 vehicle and cycle thefts were reported in the Johannesburg police district last year.

There were also 10 346 cases of housebreaking — an average of 30.3 cases a day.

And in the two Soweto police districts, 1 113 murders — an average of 3.1 cases a day — and 494 cases of culpable homicide were reported.

These figures have been disclosed by Law and Order Minister Adriaan Vlok in response to questions tabled by Helen Suzman (FFP Houghton) and Peter Seol (FFP Johannesburg North).

The figures reflect high levels of crimes of violence in black residential areas and high levels of crimes against property in “white” areas on the Witwatersrand.

At the nine police stations in the Johannesburg district, 422 murders, 166 culpable homicides, 1 328 cases of assault with intent to do grievous bodily harm and 4 329 common assaults were reported, but at the eight police stations in Soweto, 1 113 murders, 494 culpable homicides, 5 185 cases of assault with intent to do grievous bodily harm and 5 877 common assaults were reported.

Vehicle thefts

While 1 464 cases of rape were reported in Soweto, 328 rapes were reported in Johannesburg.

In Johannesburg 3 365 robberies, 10 076 cases of theft of vehicles and cycles, 10 346 cases of housebreaking and 2 264 cases of damage to property were reported.

In Soweto, 2 855 robberies, 1 685 thefts of vehicles and cycles, 3 508 cases of damage to property and 2 739 cases of housebreaking were reported.

In the Randburg police district, 250 murders — 141 in Alexandra — and 144 culpable homicides were reported.

There were also 8 236 cases of housebreaking and 3 436 cases of vehicle and cycle theft including 3 181 at Randburg itself, 1 266 at Brannely and 1 735 in Sandon.

A considerably lower rate of murder and culpable homicide were reported at the 20 police stations in the Pretoria and Pretoria North police districts — 214 murders and 541 culpable homicides.
Police smash fraud network in Licensing Department

By Craig Kotze, Crime Reporter

Police have smashed a fraud network within the Johannesburg Licensing Department which specialised in falsifying car registrations so the vehicles would qualify for export.

Four men, including two licensing officials, have been arrested, police said.

Detectives also arrested another four suspects during their investigations, which started last Thursday.

Six vehicles, worth about R100 000, have been seized by police. More cars are expected to be recovered.

"The cars were registered in a manner that fraudulently gave the impression that the vehicles were already in the possession of the 'buyer' for a year and were thus eligible for export," said the spokesman.

Registration documents were then illegally removed from the Licensing Department after the process was complete, he said.

The network was uncovered after a motorist took his car for repairs to a Soweto mechanic. However, the vehicle was sold and re-registered in someone else's name.

When the legitimate owner went to the Licensing Department to pay his fees, he found they had already been paid.

Police investigations later revealed that three cars belonging to garage clients had been registered in the name of a Licensing Department employee. The registration had been fraudulently completed and the files were missing from the licensing offices.
6 murders and 8 rapes on the Reef each day

PARLIAMENT — Six people could be murdered and eight raped on the Witwatersrand today, according to crime figures released in Parliament by the Minister of Law and Order, Mr Adriaan Vlok.

This was the average daily figure for these crimes reported in this area last year, according to figures he gave PF PUP MPs.

Mr Vlok supplied figures for the total number of cases investigated by 34 police stations on the Witwatersrand.

A total of 2,438 murders were investigated by the police stations last year — an average of 6.67 a day.

According to the figures, 1,162 culpable homicides — 3.2 a day — were investigated on the Witwatersrand last year.

The majority of rape cases investigated were at Katlehong (261), Sebokeng (278), Alexandra (129), Moreoka (357), Jabulani (213), Orlando (169) — nearly one a day — and Meadowlands (227).

White residential areas were hardest hit by housebreakings in 1987 — with the worst being Alberton (six cases a day), Randburg (8.7 cases a day) and Sandton (4.75 cases a day).

Central Johannesburg was the worst-hit area for car and cycle thefts — a total of 3,849 cases (9.5 a day).

Drug cases appeared to be down, with the highest number investigated at Park Station (23) and Lenasia (13).
Jo'burg had 400 murders in 1987.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY - More than 400 murders were reported in the central Johannesburg police district last year, according to figures disclosed by Law and Order Minister Adriaan Vlok. Vlok said that at the nine Johannesburg police stations 3,365 robberies, 10,076 vehicle and cycle thefts were reported, as well as 10,346 cases of housebreaking and 328 rapes.

In Soweto East and West there were 1,113 murders, about 500 cases of culpable homicide, more than 11,000 assault cases and 1,464 rape cases reported. — Supa.

In the Pretoria and Pretoria North, which included the township of Atteridgeville, 214 murders were reported.
Powa angered by rape case finding

A women's group has reacted with shock and outrage to the recent statement by the Minister of Law and Order, Mr Adriaan Vlok, that eight women were raped every day on the Witwatersrand.

The group, People Opposing Women Abuse (Powa), has also questioned the sentences passed on rapists.

Referring to the sensational case of the Hillbrow "Towel Rapist", Andries Benjamin Kruger, who recently was sentenced to an effective 25 years' imprisonment, a spokesman for Powa said that the organisation was outraged that a judge had been lenient on a man who had terrorised an entire community of women, raping at least six, because he was "passionate and loving".

"Every rape is life-threatening, regardless of the physical injuries sustained," said the spokesman.

"The most tragic aspect of rape is that a sentence, no matter how severe, does not repair the emotional, psychological and social scarring which results for the victim."

SARA MARTIN

"These feelings are made worse by secondary victimisation — that is, the unsympathetic attitude of the media, police, medical profession, and the courts."

In passing sentence in the Hillbrow case, the presiding judge said he had decided not to impose the death sentence because none of the rapes was, in his opinion, an extreme case.

Mrs Irma Labuschagne, senior lecturer in criminology at Unisa and director of the Pretoria branch of Rape Crisis, felt the sentence was fair.

Awaiting execution on death row is Leon Pausen, the Bloemfontein "monster", who abducted a 34-year-old mother of a four-year-old child under false pretences on January 6 this year, then raped and assaulted her near Bloemfontein.

As a result of her injuries she is confined to a wheelchair for life.

Not only is Powa concerned about the recent wave of rape cases. So is the South African Police. "More than 15 000 rape cases are reported each year," says Lt Pierre Louw, liaison officer for the Witwatersrand.

There is no age limit for the victims.

- A father-of-three was convicted in the Cape Town Supreme Court last week of murdering and raping a three-year-old boy and raping an eight-year-old girl.
- A 10-year-old retarded child in Cape Town was attacked and raped on her way home from school.
- A 14-year-old Vereeniging girl who experienced the trauma of repeated rape and the murder of her brother is still undergoing psychiatric treatment.
- An 81-year-old Cape Town woman was attacked and raped in her Seapoint flat.

A Hammanskraal man who brutally assaulted, raped and robbed a 57-year-old woman was sentenced in the Pretoria Regional Court to 13 years' imprisonment. An accomplice got nine years.

A 35-year-old Durban man who raped his two step-daughters was jailed for six years. An 18-year-old Pretoria man was sentenced to five years for raping his half-sister. The victim was a frail 11-year-old girl.
Fly-by-night operators use watch — SAP

By Craig Kotze, Crime Reporter

Police have warned against unscrupulous "fly-by-night" operators who exploited the Neighbourhood Watch concept and lured subscribers with scare tactics and hollow promises which were never fulfilled.

In a statement issued on Wednesday in Pretoria, the SAP Public Relations Division said there were certain "profit centred undertakings active which exploited the good name of Neighbourhood Watches".

Several cases had already been brought to the attention of the police, a spokesman said.

Police said these undertakings made "sensational" claims and promises to the public that were not fulfilled.

By the time subscribers realized they would not be receiving the service paid for, the schemes had already disbanded or changed owners.

Of the false claims made by some operators to encourage people to subscribe were statements that crime in a certain area had increased by 327 percent.

The Star has established that in one country community, Warmbaths, it was claimed the ANC, UDF, Cosatu and controversial people like Winnie Mandela, wife of jailed ANC leader Nelson Mandela, were responsible for crime.

In addition, claims were also made that Joe Slovo, former commander of the ANC's military wing, "was behind the whole thing".

In their statement, police emphasised the Neighbourhood Watch system, based on the principle of good neighbourhoodliness, gave "exceptionally" good results.

The police said they did not want to cast suspicion on the system.
Sandton-Ranburg women terrorised

Trial of five men told of crimewave

By Joe Openshaw

There are 120 to 150 housebreaking incidents a week in the Sandton-Ranburg area — and many involve violence against lone women in bed, a police officer said in the Rand Supreme Court yesterday.

Lieutenant Gert Petrus Zoelie was giving evidence in the trial of five men charged with housebreaking with aggravating circumstances, attempted murder, rape, possession of an illegal firearm and escaping from police custody.

He said that since December 1986 there had been 10 housebreaking cases involving rape.

CALL FOR DEATH

The five men, all of Alexandra, pleaded guilty to escaping from the Sandton Police cells on January 5 last year but not guilty to the other charges.

One of the men, Arthur Generals (24) was found guilty by Mr Justice J H Coetzee on all five counts and the prosecutor, Mrs M Kolbe, asked for the death sentence for rape and housebreaking with aggravating circumstances.

The other four were found guilty of escaping from custody. In addition, Stephen Lefifi (30) was found guilty of theft of a BMW; Edwin Tukane (16), a juvenile, at the time of the housebreaking, guilty of housebreaking and attempted murder; Michael Lethlabi, who was 18 when the crimes were committed, guilty of theft, and Steve Msele (24) guilty of housebreaking and attempted murder.

A man and his wife said the men broke into their home in Rivonia at midnight on December 14 1986. The husband was stabbed in the back and bound.

The men tied a leather belt around his neck and tried to throttle him.

They tied the wife's hands behind her back and then raped her a number of times.

The woman identified Arthur Generals as the man who dragged her from the bedroom by the throat to the study where he again raped her at knife-point.

He then took her 14-month-old child in his arms and rocked it and this added to her terror.

Generals confessed to the crimes "in great detail", the judge said.

Mr Justice Coetzee said Generals had been arrogant in court and his evidence had been a "pack of lies."

Lieutenant Zoelie said that in the last three years housebreaking had been on the increase and in Sandton and Randburg residents had taken matters into their own hands to protect themselves and formed neighbourhood watches. Security firms patrolling the streets had mushroomed in the area.

"There is a general increase in housebreaks in Johannesburg as well and a special housebreaking unit was formed at John Vorster Square in January to curb offenders," he said.

Sentence will be passed today.
HOUSE OF DELEGATES

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER:

December 31, 1976

To: The Honourable Mathew E. Smith, Speaker, House of Delegates

From: The Honourable John D. Knight, Minister of Law and Order

Subject: Proposed Amendment to the Law of December 31, 1976

Dear Mr. Speaker,

I am writing to inform you of the proposed amendment to the Law of December 31, 1976, which I believe will strengthen our legal system and ensure justice for all citizens.

The amendment includes several key provisions:

1. Enhanced penalties for crimes involving fraud and corruption.
2. Increased powers for law enforcement agencies to investigate and prosecute such crimes.
3. New measures to protect whistleblowers and encourage reporting of illegal activities.
4. Strengthened provisions to prevent money laundering and illicit financial flows.
5. New provisions to address cybercrimes and cyber-attacks.

I believe these amendments are necessary to address the evolving challenges faced by our legal system and to ensure that justice is served fairly and effectively.

Please consider these amendments carefully and provide your feedback to help shape the final version of the bill.

Sincerely,

John D. Knight
Minister of Law and Order

The Honourable Mathew E. Smith, Speaker
Soweto police report 8 murders at weekend

The Soweto police division said there were eight murders, four attempted murders and 10 rapes reported in its area over the weekend.

Soweto police spokesman Major Noel Hartwell said two men were arrested in connection with one of the attempted murders.

He said two armed robberies were reported.

Major Hartwell said 16 people were arrested in terms of the Liquor Act and 350 dozen bottles of beer were seized.

In addition, a woman and three men were arrested for allegedly selling dagga, while another two men were being held in connection with gambling.

Police also recovered 34 stolen and suspected stolen vehicles and arrested four men.

Other cases reported were: 14 thefts, five car thefts, 13 thefts out of cars, and eight housebreakings.
HOUSE OF DEFENDANTS

(1) [Signature]
(2) [Signature]
(3) [Signature]
(4) [Signature]
(5) [Signature]
(6) [Signature]
(7) [Signature]
(8) [Signature]

OWN AFFAIRS

(1) NO
(2) NO

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER

(1) The Honourable Mr. Justice E. G. M. Myatt, QC
(2) The Honourable Mr. Justice E. G. M. Myatt, QC
(3) The Honourable Mr. Justice E. G. M. Myatt, QC
(4) The Honourable Mr. Justice E. G. M. Myatt, QC
(5) The Honourable Mr. Justice E. G. M. Myatt, QC
(6) The Honourable Mr. Justice E. G. M. Myatt, QC
(7) The Honourable Mr. Justice E. G. M. Myatt, QC
(8) The Honourable Mr. Justice E. G. M. Myatt, QC

THE MINISTER OF HOUSING

(1) The Honourable Mr. Justice E. G. M. Myatt, QC
(2) The Honourable Mr. Justice E. G. M. Myatt, QC
(3) The Honourable Mr. Justice E. G. M. Myatt, QC
(4) The Honourable Mr. Justice E. G. M. Myatt, QC
(5) The Honourable Mr. Justice E. G. M. Myatt, QC
(6) The Honourable Mr. Justice E. G. M. Myatt, QC
(7) The Honourable Mr. Justice E. G. M. Myatt, QC
(8) The Honourable Mr. Justice E. G. M. Myatt, QC

Wednesday, 7th April 1988

[Signature]
[Signature]
19 murders, 142 assaults, 19 rapes. Hillbrow? No Mondeor

By THAMI MKHWAZI

THE theory that an influx of blacks to white areas would result in a rise in crime was exploded this week when crime statistics presented at a press conference in Johannesburg showed the opposite.

Speaking at the conference, organised by Actstop — the organisation fighting the exploitation and eviction of black tenants in white group areas — black Sash representative, Ethel Walt, said the crime rate was higher in the white suburb of Mondeor than in integrated Hillbrow.

The conference, attended by about 400 people in the Central Methodist Church, was called by Actstop in conjunction with the Black Sash and the Five Freedoms Forum to highlight the plight of black tenants in "white" areas, allegedly exploited by landlords taking advantage of their precarious legal status.

Walt said it was ironic that while the conference was in progress, a meeting was being held in Mondeor by residents who, "concerned about the same problems that concern us, believe that the solution lies in tightening and enforcing" the Group Areas Act "rather than dismantling it".

She quoted a report compiled by SA Institute of Race Relations researcher Ebrahim Moosa Walt, who examined the rate of various crimes per 10,000 people between January 1984 and June 1986 in Hillbrow and Mondeor.

In that period, research showed five cases of murder per 10,000 people in the area served by the Hillbrow police station and 19 per 10,000 in the area of Mondeor police station; two cases of culpable homicide in Hillbrow against 23 in Mondeor; 25 cases of assault with intent to do grievous bodily harm in Hillbrow against 63 in Mondeor; 110 cases of common assault in Hillbrow, as opposed to 142 in Mondeor; and 10 cases of rape in Hillbrow but 22 in Mondeor.

She said the findings should explode the myth that an influx of black people to an area automatically resulted in a rise in the rate of crime, and should "alleviate one of the major fears of white residents".

Another fear, she said, was that social degradation of the area and a decline in property values. Employing the findings of academic Renfrew Christie compiled for the Institute of Race Relations, Walt noted that property prices had risen in unofficial mixed areas such as Mayfair and Woodstock.

Ethnic or cultural neighbourhoods developed spontaneously in most cities, she argued.

But in South Africa "we have more laws in our statute book than most other countries ... there must also be a law to govern where we may live".

The residents of Mondeor would no doubt call for the retention of the Group Areas Act, she said but the government was faced with the "fait accompli" of an integrated Hillbrow and the impossibility of "unscrambling the egg".

She said it was probable that a National Party delegation, including Roelf Meyer, the deputy minister of constitutional development, who visited Hillbrow on Wednesday, would advocate the establishment of "grey areas".

The legal establishment of grey areas, she charged, would be a recipe for disaster. Walt noted the appalling conditions in Hillbrow and elsewhere, overcrowding in some flats as well as excessive rentals charged to black tenants and lack of maintenance.

The situation, she said, was an inevitable consequence of the fact that black tenants had no legally enforceable right to be there, making them vulnerable to victimisation and exploitation.

She argued that if certain areas were declared legal grey areas desirable homeless people would flock there in even greater numbers, resulting in swamping of these areas, further deterioration in living conditions and possible racial conflict.

Actstop chairman, Cassim Saloojee told the conference that the only workable alternative to the problem was to declare the whole of Johannesburg an open area.

Saloojee said black residents — ratepayers and, therefore, contributors to the upkeep of Johannesburg — should enjoy the right to use community facilities.

Reverting to Meyer's tour, Actstop's Cas Coovadia said yesterday that while speakers at the Actstop conference had "expounded workable solutions to the problems confronting Johannesburg and other areas devastated by the Group Areas Act, the minister was unable to even address these problems in any way.

Tri-racial debates get go-ahead

Weekly Mail Reporter

AFTER a concerted rearguard fight by the right-wing Conservative Party, parliament has finally agreed to a procedure for joint debates.

When the joint debates take place in the new Great Hall of Parliament — a building which the government estimates has cost more than R35-million — it will be first time that white MPs will debate in public with "coloured" and Indian MPs.

Ever since the tricameral system was introduced in 1984, the three houses have debated and voted separately. The only time they have sat together has been on formal occasions such as the opening of parliament or the budget speech.

The MPs discuss proposed legislation together in joint standing committees. The CP, with its 22 MPs, will be the fourth smallest party, after the NP's 131, the Labour Party's 72 and the National People's Party's 24 MPs.

The Progressive Federal Party, which has 17 white MPs and two Indian MPs, will have 19 representatives in the joint debates and will be the only non-ethnic party.

Although it is possible that a majority of MPs could outvote the government in a debate, National Party control of the system is not threatened: the three houses will vote separately even though they will be able to cast their votes together in the Great Hall.

If there is no "consensus" —
Police hold 45 in Soweto crime swoop

Crime Report 21/7/83

Police arrested 45 suspects in connection with crimes ranging from murder, rape, contravention of liquor regulations and possession of drugs in the Soweto police division at the weekend, a spokesman said.

"Three arrests were linked to murders, 12 of which were reported," said Soweto police spokesman Major Noel Hartwell.

He said seven rape and 29 robbery cases were also being investigated and detectives had made seven arrests.

Narcotics Bureau detectives arrested 17 people, including eight women, in connection with contraventions of the Liquor Act and had confiscated 200 dozen beers, said Major Hartwell.

Eight people linked to various crimes were being held, including one in connection with a 5 kg dagga haul.

Vehicle Branch police recovered 18 stolen and suspected stolen vehicles and made seven arrests.

Major Hartwell said 39 recovered stolen vehicles were identified by their owners at the weekend after a special Police File TV programme.
Six murders, 12 rapes in Soweto

Crime Reporter

Six murders, three attempted murders and 12 rapes were reported in Soweto in what police described as a 'relatively quiet' weekend.

Soweto police spokesman Major Noel Hartwell said 41 stolen and suspected stolen vehicles were recovered by detectives, who made 11 arrests.

Two men were arrested in connection with attempted murder allegations while 'another two armed robbery suspects were also being held, he said.

One suspected rapist was also arrested.

Major Hartwell said 26 cases of theft, including six vehicles, were reported. Four suspects were arrested and faced theft charges.

Liquor Squad detectives arrested 13 people, including four women, under the Liquor Act and confiscated 190 dozen beers.

Two men were arrested by narcotics squad detectives and faced charges of possessing dagga. Nearly 1.2 kg of dagga relating to the two cases was seized, said Major Hartwell.

Cause of mine accident unclear

Mine officials are still investigating the cause of the accident that claimed the lives of 10 miners at Harmony gold mine, near Virginia, in the Free State early on Saturday.

Rand Mines spokesman Mr Greg Kukard said last night it was still not clear exactly how the accident happened.

He said the door to a descending cage was ripped off and the 10 men fell 1,500 m down the shaft. "But what caused the cage door to come adrift is one of the aspects officials are investigating."

"The cage was carrying about 100 people at the time. Two others were slightly injured in the incident."

The names of the victims will be released once their next of kin have been informed.
Nicro has come a long way

By SIZAKELE KOOMA

Nicro is an organisation whose objectives are to promote and secure the welfare, rehabilitation and after-care of offenders and their dependents.

From very humble beginnings — tin shack offices that could only cram in three social workers and offer limited services — this organisation is now housed in a modern building which allows for a wide variety of services and still has enough space to let out.

Nicro-Soweto's "rags to riches" story dates back 22 years ago when social workers from the only branch of Nicro in Johannesburg formed a subcommittee with the sole objective of educating the black community about crime and creating public awareness of the services of the organisation.

"We had problems raising funds because of the very limited references we had," Mr Shimane Kumalo, branch director of Nicro-Soweto, said.

"We needed money to establish ourselves in the community and to help those people who came to ask for assistance. We could not raise enough money and we were pulling very hard." Nevertheless, things progressed well as the years went by and in 1979 when Nicro-Soweto was a fully-fledged and reputable organisation the subcommittee decided the time was ripe for them to become autonomous. They moved house from the Johannesburg branch and rented offices at the Soweto offices of the South African National Council of Alcohol and Drug Abusers (Sanca) in 1980. Early in 1981 they moved into their own premises — a modern hut, partitioned to accommodate the three social workers who were working on the project.

"Although the place was a bit shabby, with the yard fenced with corrugated iron, we were very happy to have a place of our own. We had at last found a way of advertising our services. We were more visible and really accessible to the community."

The place was not very conducive to work in, though. There was very little and sometimes no confidentiality between a client and the social worker during an interview. This was because there was another social worker or other people in the room.

"We also could not hold group interviews as we did not have enough space. The winters were very cold and this presented problems for the social workers," Mr Kumalo explains.

All this did not deter the determination of the social workers. They were kept going by their dream. The dream of building their own Messa of welfare services.

"Our dream started in 1975 when we applied for a site," explains Mr Isaac Meletse, the special projects manager.

But with all the red tape and the unrest that broke out the following year we made it in 1979. While still waiting, we raised funds and approached sponsors. In 1984 construction was started and in 1986 we moved in.

Today Nicro-Soweto employs three social workers, a part-time cleaner, a bookkeeper and a caretaker. They run a youth club, offer draughtsman courses and have a library. Some of their offices are rented to organisations like the Black Sash, the Inter-denominational Woman's Prayer League and Sabswe.

"We have had considerable growth. Our clientele has expanded and we are now able to diversify our work. We are now dealing with both the problems and the needs of the offenders.

"We offer counselling services and material and their families and we do not really wait for an offender to come out of jail to help him. If it is a man, his wife is entitled to come to us as soon as he goes to jail. We then assess the problem and see which areas need attention.

"We arrange for grants for the children and hand out food parcels now and again, especially if the person in jail was the breadwinner."

"Our counselling service starts while the offender is in jail. We offer pre-release counselling for both the offender and his family. This is meant to prepare the offender for life outside prison, acquainting him with his family again and arranging visits if possible.

"Problems of a person who has been in jail do not end with his release. He still has to adjust to the changes in society and adapt to his family who might regard him as a stranger, especially if he was serving a very long term and left when the children were still young.

"The offenders are given transport money to seek employment or fix their identity documents," and in some cases given money to buy food while they still seek their next of kin when they come out of jail."

Nicro-Soweto has taken their services a step further. They are now moving towards crime preventive measures: while still concentrating on the curative aspect. They give talks on invitation by township organisations to help primary prevention of crime.

They started a youth club in 1986 which they hope to use for a project called Street Law which will teach kids in the street about the law, who makes it and why it is made.

"We have realised that children who are members of the club identify with those in the street. We therefore hope to use them as a core group to reach out to the others."
White collar criminals grow bolder and greedier

By Craig Kotze, Crime Reporter

Corruption has become common practice in South Africa, according to SAP Commercial Branch chief Brigadier Nollie Hulme.

Speaking on "white collar" crime at a lunch hosted by a prominent security company at the Johannesburg Country Club yesterday, Brigadier Hulme said commercial crimes were on the increase in the West, including South Africa.

White collar crime had become more sophisticated and monetary values were on the increase.

"Last year's R20 000 crime has now become a R200 000 crime."

The brigadier described commercial crime as a matter of "bulldust baffling brains. It covered a vast area in which the greed-motivated criminal was placed in a position of trust which was then abused.

This included fraud, theft, corruption — described as "rife" — exchange control contraventions and contraventions of laws regulating companies, banks and insolvencies.

"White collar criminals have good jobs, live in good areas, belong to the right clubs and send their children to the best schools. We're not dealing here with the dregs of society.

"They are continually looking for loopholes to exploit. One only has to look at the manipulation of the financial rand and the mammoth amounts involved."

He urged companies to "know everything" about employees in key positions and to check references.
Let us combat crime — police

CP Reporter

The South African Police is calling on the public to help them rout out the notorious "slums" preying on people in Johannesburg's central business district.

Chief Constable Pierre Louw of the S.A.P. public relations division in Johannesburg this week called on the public to report all incidents of robbery or trickery to the police to help investigations.

In recent weeks, newspapers have been carrying stories of people who have been lured into dark, quiet alleys by tricksters and then robbed. The popular ploy is to get a trickster to visibly and suspiciously touch a victim.

Several moments later, a collaborator in the trick walks up to the victim and says he is concerned about the "mogwele" in which the victim was touched by the first trickster.

He then convinces him or her that the first trickster is a "bad" person. The victim is then lured into an alley where all his money is asked for to be cleansed.

Once the money is in the "Trickstern hands, they simply disappear.

so-called slums is Maki Motsuenyane of Block S, Mabopane. She was robbed of her bag containing important personal documents and $800 in cash.

According to Motsuenyane, she was on her way to work last week when a car stopped next to her. One of the passengers got out of the car and asked her if she could direct him to Sophias.

"I hurried my shoulders to show the man I did not know the place. After that he came after me and told me he was the son of a famous inyanga who was also patronised by Kaizer Motaung and other top soccer personalities. I ignored him and just walked on," Motsuenyane said.

While the two were walking, another male passenger alighted from the car and advanced towards them.

"I only felt the man touch me and he was gone with my case containing documents and money. I felt dashed and very weak. I don't remember much after that," Motsuenyane said.

"I did not believe this sort of thing could happen to me, or anybody for that matter. I think it was some kind of magic. I have lost my money, alright, but could anyone who has got my documents please bring them back. I won't ask any questions. All I want are my documents. They are so important to me and they can't mean anything to anyone else," her business telephone number is Johannesburg 29-9311.

Louw said the public's co-operation was important in cracking the so-called slums gangs.

"We have heard rumours, but we have not received any direct complaints from the public. At this stage, we can only ask the public to come forward and help. It is difficult for the police to act on rumors."

The police, he said, were also seeking the public's help in fighting robbery in general. The robbery reaction unit achieved great success last year because of help from the public.

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Soweto weekend.
10 killed, 22 raped

Twelve people were murdered in Soweto at the weekend, a police spokesman said today.

Three attempted murders, 22 rapes and 10 armed robberies were reported.

Four people have been arrested in connection with four murders and police have arrested seven others in connection with rape, Major Noel Hartwell, police spokesman for Soweto said.

Nine people have been arrested in connection with robbery.

Theft rated high on the crime list and seven people were arrested in connection with seven out of 33 cases of theft that took place between Friday morning and this morning.

Seventeen vehicles were stolen, while 12 stolen vehicles were recovered.

Five people were arrested in connection with three cases of housebreaking and theft out of a total of 22 cases reported.

The Liquor Squad arrested 10 men and seven women in liquor raids.

Twelve men were held for alleged drug dealing.
The MINISTER OF JUSTICE:

The required information is not readily available in the Department. In an effort to be of assistance to the Honourable Member, the following information was obtained from the South African Police:

- (a) Convictions for the period 1 January to 31 December 1977 on conviction:
  - Witwatersrand - 13
  - Cato Manor - 2
  - Greenpoint - 2
  - Sydenham - 21

- (b) Convictions for the period 1 January to 31 December 1977 on release:
  - Witwatersrand - 13
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Experts will be ready to help

Police to launch crime ‘trauma’ unit to assist victims

By Gien Elsas,
West Rand Bureau

West Rand and Vereeniging victims of crimes, especially crimes of a sexual nature, will soon be able to rely on the support of a team of experts to help them overcome fears and problems relating to the specific crime.

A West Rand police spokesman said the South African Police, realising that victims of crimes go through a great deal of trauma, have initiated a care facility for victims which will soon be completely functional.

The back-up team for a victim would include psychologists, psychiatrists and social workers who will probably be based at provincial hospitals. The police and district surgeons will also play an important role in the rehabilitation of the victim.

The spokesman said that a rape victim, for example, would be sympathetically helped by a policewoman who would go with her to the right departments and help her to overcome her ordeal. The victim would also be told about court procedure and would be told what type of questions she might be asked.

If there are any cases of child abuse where the person who reports the abuse wishes to remain anonymous, a call to the police is sufficient for an investigation to be launched.

Crime victims who need help and people who wish to report cases of child abuse can contact:

West Rand — Captain Neville Thoms at (011) 660-7692 during office hours and 753-2077 after hours or Detective Sergeant Petro Heynecke at (011) 660-7692 during office hours and 665-3829 after hours.

Vereeniging — Captain Jacobs or Detective Constable Pretorius can be contacted at (016) 31-2121 during office hours. Captain Jacobs’ home telephone number is 26-2781.

National workshop to assist street children

By Sue Valentine

The often unco-ordinated efforts by numerous organisations to meet the needs of street children throughout South Africa has prompted a national workshop to be held in Cape Town from July 7-9.

The workshop has been organised by the National Association of Childcare Workers (NACCW).

A spokesman from the NACCW said there were about six established organisations catering to street children countrywide. However each day more and more informal groups were trying to assist street children in their areas, but lacked the resources or expertise to meet the complex needs of these children.

Guest speakers at the conference will be Professor Linda Richter of the Institute of Behavioural Sciences in the United States and Professor Mike Balzer of the University of Minnesota.

Sponsorship for the Cape Town conference — at which about 80 delegates are expected — is urgently needed.

Further information about the conference can be obtained from Mr Brian Gannon of the NACCW at (021) 790-3401.
Soweto weekend: 10 die, 17 raped.

Soweto police reported 10 murders and 17 rapes at the weekend.

There were five attempted murders, according to Major Noel Hartwell, police liaison officer for Soweto. Five armed and 14 other robberies were reported, with two arrests in two cases. There were 15 cases of housebreaking and theft. Of the 17 rape cases, four arrests were made.

Members of the Liquor Squad arrested five people for allegedly dealing in liquor illegally and confiscated a large quantity of alcohol. The Drug Squad arrested four people.
Procession for dead supermarket staffs

By Glen Elsa, West Rand Bureau

Staff members from the OK Bazaars in Van Wyk Street, Roodepoort — scene of the bomb blast last Friday which left four dead and 19 injured — paid their last respects to their dead colleagues in a moving tribute on Saturday morning.

Mr Mark Bradley, branch manager of the store, said that several directors of the OK Bazaars, including managing director Mr Gordon Hood, led a procession to the site of the blast where wreaths and flowers were laid and last respects and prayers were said for those who had lost their lives.

The procession, which took place at 10 am, was in honour of Mrs Barbara-Ann Bilyard, Mr Godfried Thabe and Mr Solomon Mosimane who all lost their lives when a bomb exploded outside the Standard Bank on Friday afternoon.

He added that the staff had been quite overwhelmed with flowers, telegrams, wreaths and offers of help, both from the public and from business competitors.

He said that the OK Bazaars was assisting with funeral arrangements for their staff members wherever they could.

One blast victim critical

By Glen Elsa, West Rand Bureau

The condition of the victims of the bomb blast in Roodepoort's central business district on Friday afternoon has improved, with the exception of the badly injured Mrs Susan Grobbelaar, whose condition was described as "still critical" yesterday.

Of the 19 people injured, nine are still in hospital.

Ms Ester Carrai (28), who was admitted to the Hillbrow Hospital, needs surgery on her hand.

Mrs Nanda Brits (39) of Witpoortjie is in the Flora Clinic, where she is undergoing an operation to remove shrapnel from her shoulder and chest. Mr Nicolaas Venter (62) of Randfontein is in a satisfactory condition in the Discoverers Hospital in Roodepoort.

Seven more are hanged

Seven people were executed in Pretoria last week.

Among them was Sphiwe Wilson Makhanya (66), convicted in the Durban Supreme Court on two counts of murder, said a Department of Justice spokesman.

The other six men hanged were Jacob McGregor (27), Peter Nichol (26), Vincent Stone (28), Freddie Boysen (32), Attie Taylor (22) and William Cupido (24).

All were sentenced for the murder of an inmate of Allandale prison near Paarl in June 1985.

This year 45 black men, 20 coloured men and one white have been hanged.

School's heroine welcomed back

By Joe Openshaw

Comrades Marathon heroine Frith van der Merwe was back at Benoni's Wordsworth High School yesterday and there was not just an apple for the most popular teacher in the Transvaal, but a whole basket of fruit.

Scores of Wordsworth High children stopped her in the corridors to congratulate her.
7 murdered in Soweto at weekend

Crime Reporter

Police reported seven murders, two attempted murders and 13 rapes in Soweto at the weekend. Police spokesman Major Noel Hartwell said two suspects were arrested in connection with murder; while another two linked to rape were also detained. He said 23 cases of robbery, seven of them involving weapons, were reported.

Seven robbery suspects were arrested.

Eleven cars were stolen in the area but detectives recovered 29 stolen or suspected stolen vehicles and arrested four suspects.

Three suspected housebreakers were arrested and 27 cases were reported, said Major Hartwell.
DET asked to suspend ‘kidnapper’

By SOPHIE TEMTA

THE Tumahole Civic Association has called on the Department of Education and Training to suspend a teacher allegedly charged with the attempted kidnapping of a local schoolboy.

The attempt has been linked to the alleged mysterious disappearance of several children, as well as adults, from the township since last year. The TCA claims residents suspect a gang operating in the township is responsible for the kidnappings for ritual purposes.

The TCA told City Press the bodies of three adults, “with parts missing”, had been found in the township. According to the organisation, several children have disappeared from the township and their parents are anxiously searching for them. Most of the missing children are boys.

A TCA spokesman said: “The sudden and mysterious disappearance of children from the township has caused concern, particularly after the bodies of three adults who had also gone missing were later found with parts missing.”

“We believe there are people who have ganged together to kidnap adults and children from the township to kill them for ritual purposes. We have evidence that a woman teacher has been arrested and charged with the attempted kidnapping of a young boy and we have submitted a letter to the DET requesting that the teacher involved be suspended from the school.”

The spokesman said incidents of kidnappings of children have been reported in several black townships in the Free State in the past three months.

Two weeks ago, a young girl from Evaton, Lydia Klaasen, described how she escaped from her would-be kidnappers after she accepted a lift home in a minibus.

Lydia’s brother allegedly escaped a similar attempt when two men tried to cut off his tongue and gouge out his eyes after they had kidnapped him from the township.
Soweto police arrest 210 people at weekend

By Craig Kotze, Crime Reporter

Soweto police arrested 210 suspects at the weekend on charges ranging from murder, rape and theft to robbery and drug and liquor-related offences, a spokesman said.

Fourteen of those arrested were detained during a massive crime prevention drive, in which more than 700 policemen took part, on Saturday night and early Sunday, said Soweto police liaison officer Major Noel Hartwell.

He said most of the weekend arrests were under the Liquor Act, with 162 men and women detained and 103 dozen beers confiscated by detectives.

Six suspects were arrested, four during the crime prevention operation, in connection with murders, nine of which were reported. Two attempted murders and 11 rapes were reported.

Ten men and women were held under drug laws, including two allegedly found in possession of Mandrax and one man with 3.16 kg of dagga.

Major Hartwell said 14 cars were stolen in the township during the weekend.

Police concentrated on Orlando, Eldorado Park, Kliptown and Lenasia during the six-hour operation.

Man shot dead in his former wife's home
ARRESTED IN SWOOP

SOUTH African Police conducted a crime prevention operation in Soweto from 8pm on Saturday until 2pm on Sunday. About 200 people were arrested for various offences.

The PRO for the Soweto Police, Major Noel Hartwell, said the operation was concentrated on Orlando, Kliptown, Eldorado Park and Lenasia. He said several roadblocks were set up in the townships and eight stolen vehicles recovered.

More than 700 policemen were used including the uniformed branch, the CID, dog unit and some traffic policemen.

Liquor

Seventeen people were arrested for dealing in liquor without licences and 145 others arrested for contravening the Liquor Act, Major Hartwell said. He said more of such crime prevention units would be used in the township, and thanked the public for its co-operation.

Nine people lost their lives in various acts of violence in the township at the weekend. Eight had knife wounds and one was shot dead.

Eleven women were raped and seven men were arrested in connection with six of the cases.

Twenty housebreaking and theft cases on business premises were reported.
THE Alexandra Youth Congress embarked on anti-crime campaigns in the area in response to "the ANC call to the nation," the Rand Supreme Court heard yesterday.

This was a submission made by the State Advocate, Mr. E du Toit, SC, in his arguments for a conviction of the eight Alexandra Township young men charged with treason, alternatively sedition or subversion.

The eight young men appearing before Mr. Justice S. H. Grasskopf are, Mr. Ashwell Zwane (20), Mr. Vusi Ngwenya (20), Mr. Andrew Mafutha (22), Mr. David Mafutha (19), Mr. Arthur Vilakazi (24), Mr. Albert Sebola (21), Mr. Piet Mogano (29) and Mr. Philemon Thalongwane (18).

**Exhibits**

The State alleges they committed the offences between January and July in 1986 in Alexandra Township. They have pleaded not guilty and are held in custody.

Mr. du Toit said the accused were all members of Ayo who embarked on anti-crime campaigns in Alexandra in response to a call to the nation by the ANC.

"Quoting from one of the exhibits in court, Mr. du Toit said the ANC call stated: "We call on our people and, more especially, our fighting youths in every black community, school and university to find ways of organising themselves into small mobile units which will protect the people against anti-social elements and acts in an organised way in both white and black areas against the enemy and its agents."

The case was then adjourned to August 1, after Mr. Norman Kades, counsel for the defence, had told the judge that he would require time to prepare for his arguments."
PRETORIA police arrested 250 people over the weekend and on Monday for criminal offences, a police spokesman said yesterday.

The weekend arrests totalled 218 and 32 people were arrested on Monday for crimes related mainly to theft, housebreaking, rape and robbery.

Northern Transvaal police spokesman Lieutenant Hennie Crowther said the arrests for the weekend were: 114 for minor criminal offences, 34 for being "caught in the act" and 70 following police investigations.

On Monday, 15 arrests were made following police investigations, nine for being "caught in the act" and eight for minor offences.

In the daily arrest report, police said yesterday three people had died in unrest-related incidents around the country. One man was beaten to death with a spade, reports Sapa. The man and a woman, who were not identified, were attacked at Sobantu in Natal.

The body of a man stabbed to death was found at Dada near Mthathwa. At Gezahuzza in the same area, another man also died in a stabbing.
Brixton police arms 'not used in murder'  

PRETORIA. — Ballistics tests on seven Brixton Murder and Robbery Squad weapons investigated in connection with the murder of night club owner Mr James Meiring were negative, police said.

The squad had insisted on the ballistics tests after a cartridge was found at the scene of the murder, the police division of public relations in Pretoria said in a statement yesterday on behalf of Lieutenant-General Stan Schutte, head of the CID.

"Speculation, insinuations and allegations" that suggested a member or members of the SAP might have been involved in Mr Meiring's murder led to police sending the weapons for ballistics tests.

"It is now ballistically proved that none of the weapons involved was used in any way in the murder," the statement said.

The firearms sent for tests were "official weapons" assigned to the unit and were not the specific responsibility of any particular policeman. The weapons were taken from the unit's weapons pool.

Police said investigations into the murder would continue.

Mr Meiring's body was found under a pile of burnt tyres in bush near Zaarbekom in late 1986 - the day a warrant for his arrest was issued in connection with a R1.5-million jewel robbery.

Earlier this year two members of the Brixton Murder and Robbery Unit were found guilty of the deaths of two alleged drug dealers and the attempted murder of a Soweto businessman. — Sapa
17 are slain in Soweto

SEVENTEEN people were killed and 15 women were raped in separate acts of violence in Soweto over the weekend.

Three people were arrested in three of the murder cases and police investigations are continuing in the other 14 cases, Major Fanyana Zwane, PRO for the Soweto police, said yesterday.

Five men were arrested in connection with four of the rape cases and 16 cases of muggings were reported. Five people were arrested in four of the cases.

Eleven motor cars were stolen and 14 cases of theft of motor cars were reported.

Police recovered 15 stolen vehicles and 13 suspected stolen vehicles were also recovered.

Eighteen people were arrested for dealing in liquor without licences and one person for failing to comply with laws governing his shebeen licence.
20 murders in Soweto at the weekend

Crime Reporter
SAV 18/1/88
Twenty murders and 18 cases of rape were reported in Soweto at the weekend, police spokesman Major Noel Hartwell said today.

Five attempted murders, 28 robberies and 17 car thefts were also reported. Police recovered 53 stolen vehicles and arrested 20 suspects. They held 11 people under liquor laws and seized alcohol and 73 video cassettes, including pornographic and pirated material.
UP UNTIL the last minute before the mistress of former Mamelodi Sundowns boss Zola Mahobe took the stand as the State’s chief witness, she misled the State as to the evidence she intended giving, the prosecutor said in the Johannesburg Magistrate’s Court yesterday.

Chris Erasmus was speaking of former Standard Bank employee Tebello Snowy Moshoeoshoe, currently serving a 10-year sentence for defrauding the Standard Bank of R7m.

She gave evidence in the trial of Mahobe, who faces charges of stealing R6m from Standard Bank.

In a successful application yesterday to have Moshoeoshoe declared a ‘perjurer to witness’, and therefore liable for cross-examination by the State, Erasmus said there were only two people who knew the truth about the Standard Bank funds — Moshoeoshoe and Mahobe.

In submissions to oppose the application, defence counsel Didiang Moseweke said Erasmus was aware the two statements made by Moshoeoshoe were inconsistent before she took the witness stand.

The State knew before they came to court that the two statements were inconsistent and that Moshoeoshoe had perjured herself.

Thus it ran a risk in calling her as a State witness, knowing of the contradictory statements and knowing she would have to fall back on one of them.

He said: Moshoeoshoe, therefore, could not have misled the State as they were aware of her perjury before she took the witness stand.

The case was postponed until today.
State application for 'hostile witness'

Mahobe trial: lover changes story in court

THE trial of the former Mamelodi Sundowns soccer club boss Zola Mahobe, charged with stealing Röm from the Standard Bank, was postponed in the Johannesburg Magistrate's Court yesterday for the State to apply to have a State witness declared a "hostile witness".

The prosecution asked that Mahobe's mistress, Tsheliso Snowy Moshoeshoe, now serving a 10-year sentence for defrauding the Standard Bank of R7m, be declared a "hostile witness".

Moshoeshoe, a former Standard Bank employee, hesitated when asked by magistrate A Booyens whether she still loved Mahobe. She said: "It all depends on him, what his feelings are for me."

During cross-examination by defence counsel D Mosenke, Moshoeshoe said she had lied in her statement made on June 2 when she stated she had told Mahobe the funds deposited into his account did not belong to her and were unauthorised.

She said she had made that statement under pressure from her family and had decided she would tell the truth in court.

She admitted she never told Mahobe the funds were the property of the Standard Bank but had said they were part of her family's estate and would have to be repaid by Mahobe when his businesses became profitable.

Mahobe has pleaded not guilty to five charges of theft from Standard Bank involving more than Röm, which had been fraudulently deposited into his account by Moshoeshoe.

He has denied knowing the money had been fraudulently deposited into his account.

Moshoeshoe agreed with Mosenke any employee at the bank could have access to Mahobe's accounts. She agreed that for four years she maintained to Mahobe the money deposited into his accounts were from her deceased brother's estate and that Mahobe had no reason to disbelieve her.

She said the agreement between Mahobe and herself was that he would repay the loans from the start of 1989.
7 killed in 'relatively quiet' Soweto weekend

Crime Reporter

Soweto police reported seven murders, one attempted murder, 12 rapes and 28 robberies in a "relatively quiet" weekend.

Police liaison officer Major Noel Hartwell said police arrested 34 suspects in connection with cases ranging from murder to contraventions of the Liquor Act.

Detectives confiscated 253 dozen beers and 12 bottles of spirits.

Major Hartwell said 21 suspected stolen vehicles were recovered and 2.35 kg of dagga was seized at the weekend.
By Dawn Barkhuizen

More than 2,500 suspected criminals have been arrested throughout South Africa over the past week in a massive nation-wide crime prevention operation by a combined force of police, reservists, the Defence Force and various traffic departments.

The sweeps, among the biggest ever mounted in South Africa, have been hailed as highly successful by police.

In the Transvaal alone more than 1,000 suspects have been arrested since Thursday in connection with crimes ranging from murder to petty theft, say police spokesmen.

Included in this group is a man who allegedly tried to break into the car of former Transport Minister, Mr Hendrik Schoeman, in Delmas.

In a sweep across the Witwatersrand on Friday night 338 people were held in connection with crimes including four murders, 13 robberies and seven rapes.

In a similar action in the Northern Transvaal, a combined force of 1,200 combed the area between 8pm and 8pm on Friday arresting approximately 340 people.

Charges included vehicle theft, illegal possession of firearms and housebreaking.

In a swoop in the East Rand on Thursday 194 suspects were detained in connection with car theft, and other crimes. Stolen cars, valued at R72,000, were recovered.

A week-long crime sweep in the Cape Peninsula, code-named Big Broom, culminated on Friday night with the arrest of 1,000 people — 778 alone on Friday night, and 88 in connection with serious crimes.

Last weekend about 600 were arrested in a Durban sweep.
Police net 119 in crime clampdown

CRIME REPORTER

A crime prevention operation in Soweto at the weekend resulted in the arrest of 119 people on charges ranging from murder to tampering with electrical boxes, a police spokesman said.

Police searched 787 vehicles during the operation, launched between 8 pm on Friday and 2 am on Saturday, said Soweto liaison officer Major Nigel Hartwell.

He said 46 policemen took part in the operation commanded by Soweto Divisional Inspector Brigadier A S Venter.

Among those arrested were six suspects held in connection with murder charges, 46 detained for trespassing, 18 for outstanding warrants of arrest, five for prostitution and one for tampering with an electrical box, said Major Hartwell.

The operation was the most recent of several already held in the area.

"Similar operations will be held in future," said Major Hartwell.

Killer cops may not appeal

BLOEMFONTEIN. — The Appeal Court has refused the former head of the East Rand Murder and Robbery Squad, Hendrik Johannes la Grange, leave to appeal against his conviction and double death sentence for two murders and 10-year jail sentence for attempted murder.

The court also refused Robert Edmundt van der Merwe, of Klipriver, who was a sergeant attached to the Brixton Murder and Robbery Squad, leave to appeal against his similar convictions and sentences.

They were convicted of murdering Mr Bennie Alex Ogle at Ennerdale on September 28, 1987, and Mr Peter Godfrey Pillay at Riverlea on October 4, 1987. The attempted murder was on Mr Ernest Molokoane at Mapeta, Soweto, on September 29, 1987.

The two men were convicted by Mr Acting Justice Irving Steyn in the Witwatersrand Local Supreme Court on March 30, 1988, and sentenced the next day.

— Sapa
Fraud wipes out 5% of foreign reserves

Defence counsel slams big banks

TWO big banks were described yesterday as grossly negligent for failing to detect a massive financial rand swindle.

Defence counsel H Bornman told the Rand Supreme Court that the country had lost 5% of its foreign reserves in the $1119m fraud by three Trust Bank former officials.

He added in mitigation that gross negligence by Barclays Bank and the Trust Bank should be taken into account when sentencing the swindlers.

Bornman said the finrand transactions were allowed through negligence of the two banks, which should have been watchdogs for the Reserve Bank.

Arthur Ferreira, 40, Alan Young, 36, and Henry Harper, 43, were convicted on 99 counts of fraud and 12 contraventions of the exchange control regulations.

They had pleaded not guilty to all the charges.

The swindle, between December 1985 and May 1986, made a R100m profit.

The African Bank, which pleaded not guilty to the same charges, was acquitted on all counts by Mr Justice G Gordon.

Bornman argued it was clear that control over foreign exchange was not exercised properly.

An economist, Prof S J P du Plessis, giving evidence in mitigation, described the structure of control as a temptation.

Bornman said the Reserve Bank, with the other banks, should rectify the lack of control.

He added that Ferreira was going to lose more than he got out of the transactions.

Bornman said the assets of his client, with those of the other accused, had been seized and, if they were forfeited, this would counter the effect of what he received through the illegal finrand deals.

The hearing continues today.
**House of Assembly**

**Wednesday, 21st August, 1988**

**The Minister of Home Affairs**

3. Motion of Adjournment (By Mr. Raila)
FORMER soccer boss, Mr Zola Daniel Mahobe, on trial for theft of R6 million, said in the Johannesburg Regional Court yesterday that he had no knowledge that the funds deposited into his account were illegal transfers made by his lover, Snowy Moshoeoshoe.

Mr Mahobe has pleaded not guilty before Mr A B Booysen on five charges of theft amounting to R6 million allegedly stolen from the Standard Bank.

Led by his defence lawyer, advocate Mr Dikgang Moseke, Mr Mahobe said he became self-employed in 1983 when he opened his first business, Power Promotions, which staged music festivals and soccer games.

He said Miss Moshoeoshoe was his lover and their relationship began late in 1976 up to the time he was arrested.

Mr Mahobe said before his arrest that he had several businesses and employees working for him. He said he employed managers for his businesses except for the Mamelodi Sundowns Football Club of which he was the manager.

Mr Mahobe said he had various other accounts for each of his businesses apart from his personal accounts at the Standard Bank in Jabulani, Soweto.

Mr Moseke told him that he was charged with stealing R6037 870 from the Standard Bank between February 1986 and May 1987.

Corrupt

He asked Mr Mahobe: "Did you at any stage during the time referred to have any knowledge that any money deposited into your accounts was transferred unlawfully and in a corrupt way?"

Mr Mahobe said: "Not at all!"

Cross-examined by the prosecutor, Mr C Erasmus, Mr Mahobe said he was turned down by a bank when he applied for a loan. He said no reasons were disclosed by that bank.

He denied under cross-examination that he was not a good businessman and said that his businesses did not run at a loss.
THE Transvaal Law Society is investigating allegations that a white lawyer had a deal with a doctor at Baragwanath Hospital who helped him tout for third party claim clients.

This is the latest in the row between black and white lawyers in Johannesburg over the handling of Motor Vehicle Assurance cases in the area.

Black lawyers claim that white lawyers have been given “exclusive” rights by the Johannesburg Attorneys Association (Side Bar) to tout for MVA clients at black hospitals, while black lawyers were not allowed to tout at white hospitals.

The Johannesburg Attorneys Association falls under the jurisdiction of the Transvaal Law Society.

Sources close to the JAA, who asked not to be named for fear of reprisals, said the white lawyer has been touting for clients for more than a year now.

The Sowetan knows the identity of the lawyer and the doctor.

The director of the TLS, Mr Coen Primlloo, yesterday said that it was against the policy of the society to give out details of individuals being investigated.

“Touting by attorneys is not permitted and is considered a serious allegation. All cases of alleged touting are thoroughly investigated and appropriate action against the offending attorney is taken,” said Mr Primlloo.

The doctor confirmed when confronted by the Sowetan this week that he used to pass names of accident victims to the lawyer.

“But I only did this when the patients did not have lawyers to attend to their MVA case. In most cases, I was approached by the patients to get them lawyers. At times, I would even suggest the names of four lawyers (all white) and they would make their choice. This is not illegal,” said the doctor.
Court hears Mahobe was not a good businessman

By Celeste Louw

The flamboyant Mr Zola Mahobe was 'not a good businessman. He received easy money which he spent and which was why he was called "Mr Big Bucks", a Johannesburg magistrate heard yesterday.

Mr Chris Erasmus, the State prosecutor in the R6 million theft trial of Mr Mahobe, former manager of Mamelodi Sundowns, put it to him that any good businessman who put R13 million into his businesses over a period of four years would show a profit.

"But all Mr Mahobe had was R1.5 million."

Mr Mahobe gave evidence before Mr A Booyse yesterday after the State closed its case on Friday.

He has pleaded not guilty to five counts of theft involving R6 million from the Standard Bank.

Under cross-examination, Mr Mahobe told the court that he never knew the money transferred into his accounts had been stolen.

After banks refused loans to expand his business, he discussed the matter with his lover, Miss Snowy Mosshoeshoe, who told him about a family estate in Lephalale.

"Snowy said that she could monitor the estate, and a few months later money was deposited into my account," he said.
ALISON CAMPBELL

MAMELODI Sundowns Soccer Club boss Zola Mahobe yesterday told the Johannesburg Regional Court he had signed cheques worth hundreds of thousands of rands in the belief the amounts would be covered by an overdraft agreement.

Mahobe has pleaded not guilty to five counts of fraud involving R6m.

He told State prosecutor Chris Erasmus that he had obtained amounts needed to run his businesses either through loans from his alleged former mistress, bank employee Snowy Moshoeshoe, or by means of ad hoc overdraft arrangements which he intended to repay by means of similar loans.

Destroyed

Mahobe denied knowing that some of the cheques he had presented to Moshoeshoe had subsequently been destroyed. He said his bank statements were checked by his employees and he had never been informed of any discrepancies.

Referring to his arrest in Botswana, Mahobe disputed the testimony of a Botswana police officer who said he had found Mahobe hiding in a cupboard.

He said he had been shocked and ill since hearing of Moshoeshoe's arrest, and had intended to return to SA that day. He said he had been arrested by about 10 members of the SAP.

The trial continues.
MY AGONY

THE former Mamelodi Sundowns boss on a R6-million theft charge yesterday told a Johannesburg Regional Court magistrate that he could not come back to South Africa from Botswana because he was ill for seven months after hearing that his lover Snowy Mosheshoe had been arrested.

Mr Daniel Zola Mahobe told the court that he suffered shock and as a result could not eat or walk and suffered pain in the spine.

He was giving evidence on his second day in the witness box.

Mr Mahobe is on trial for allegedly stealing R6-million from the Standard Bank between February 1986 and May 1987. The funds were allegedly deposited unlawfully into his bank account by his lover, Snowy Mosheshoe, who was at the time employed by the bank.

He pleaded not guilty to five counts of theft before Mr A B Booyens.

Mr Mahobe said he was advised by his doctor to recover before going back to South Africa to face the charges. He said he could not contact the SAP to inform them he would be coming back because he feared they would detain him.

"I was concerned about my health," he told the court.

Arrested

In Botswana he was arrested with his friend, Mr Lucky Mkhize, who had come to take him back to South Africa on that day. He said both were handed to the SAP.

Mr Mahobe said between seven and nine white South African policemen arrested him at the house where he was staying shortly after he had had a shower.

To Page 2
No ‘rash deed on spur of moment’

Youth to die for slaying 86-year-old

Vereeniging Bureau

A teenager was sentenced to death by the Vanderbijlpark Circuit Court yesterday for the murder of an 86-year-old man who was stabbed to death on a smallholding near Meyerton earlier this year.

Oupa Frans Moloi (19), who was also convicted on a charge of robbery with aggravating circumstances and sentenced to 12 years’ imprisonment by Mr Justice W J van der Merwe, was refused leave to appeal.

Before sentence was passed, Mr Justice van der Merwe and two assessors rejected Moloi’s version that he had stabbed Mr Paul Kruger Brits, who was boarding on the Vogelfontein smallholding at the time, in self-defence.

The judge said it was clear that the motive for the murder was robbery.

He added that the 11 stab wounds Mr Brits sustained during the attack were far more than was necessary “purely to immobilise the elderly man”.

After loading Mr Brits into his car, Maloi did not make any attempt to help his dying victim, and drove to a spot more than 70 km away where he dragged Mr Brits by the leg under a fence and dumped his body in a ditch.

Maloi then helped himself to Mr Brits’s watch and R27 before fleeing from the scene in the dead man’s car.

Rejecting age as a mitigating factor, Mr Justice Van der Merwe said: “All these facts show Maloi’s actions were not those of a young immature person who committed a rash deed on the spur of the moment. His youthfulness certainly does not make the crime less reprehensible.”

Before sentence was passed yesterday, Detective Constable Pedro Peens of the Vaal Triangle Murder and Robbery Unit said the Vaal area had the highest rate of attacks on elderly people in the country.

He said that since the beginning of the year 14 attacks on elderly people, of which three were fatal, had been reported.

This figure excluded victims who were not taken to hospital with their injuries.

Mr P G Hansbroek and Mr D van wyk prosecuted while Mr A Mundell appeared pro deo for the defence.
Lawmen say no to touts

THE Black Lawyers Association is to make representations to the Transvaal Law Society concerning 'touting for accident victims at black hospitals' by lawyers, writes Mzikayise Edom.

Last year, the TLS initiated the scheme with the hope of assisting blacks who were involved in car accidents and wanted to claim from the Motor Vehicle Assurance.

The scheme is in operation at Kalafong (Pretoria) and Baragwanath (Soweto, Johannesburg) hospitals.

The BLA called for the scheme to be prohibited. It hopes to meet the TLS soon.

The TLS has appointed a black clerk at Baragwanath Hospital who passes names of accident victims to all lawyers — black and white — dealing in MVA cases.

Black lawyers in Johannesburg claim that they have been excluded from the scheme and that only their white counterparts benefited.

The BLA yesterday said black lawyers were not consulted when the scheme was introduced. The association said the scheme was discriminatory because it only affected black victims but benefited white lawyers.
15 KILLED IN SOWETO

AT least 15 people were killed in Soweto over the weekend.

Fourteen of the victims had knife wounds, while one victim was shot.

The Soweto police public relations officer, Major Fanyana Zwane, said seven attempted murders were reported to the police with no arrests in all the cases.

Ordinary robberies numbered 27, rape cases five and 16 stolen cars were reported.

Police recovered 50 stolen cars and six people were arrested in connection with the crimes.

Eighteen people were arrested for dealing in liquor without licences.

Police confiscated 199 dozens of beer and a man and woman were arrested for being in possession of 44 kilograms of dagga.

Sapa reports that police used batons, tear smoke and birdshot in separate incidents to fight off mobs of stone throwers, and a man was fatally wounded when KwaZulu police fired shots on a group of attackers, police reported.

“At Mannenberg, Cape Town, a group of blacks threw stones and bottles at members of the SA Police. Batons were used to disperse the mob,” the police unrest report said. Two black men and two black youths were arrested.

“At KwaDengezi, Pinetown, a large group of blacks threw stones at police vehicles. Police used tear smoke and birdshot to disperse them and a black was wounded. Four black youths were arrested.”

A man was fatally wounded at KwaDengezi when KwaZulu police fired “a number of shots” to disperse a group of blacks who attacked them with stones.

At Sweetwaters, Natal, attackers fired a number of shots at homes. One black man and two black women were slightly wounded. Serious damage was caused to property.

Sanctions video
THE Transvaal Provincial Administration is investigating allegations of corruption involving more than R1 million in the Jouberton Town Council, Klerksdorp.

A few weeks ago two employees were suspended, another fired and a woman worker arrested on theft charges.

The investigation followed allegations that about R1½ million of council funds had been embezzled and that a cheque for R30,000 from the TPA to the council which was posted recently, had gone missing.

Councillors who did not want their names published for fear of reprisals, confirmed the allegation and said they had sought help from the TPA.

A spokesman for the TPA in Klerksdorp yesterday confirmed that their auditors were investigating the allegations. “We do not know if the allegations are true or false. We are waiting for the auditors’ reports which we will get probably before the end of this year,” the spokesman said.

An investigation by the Sowetan has also revealed that a woman employee in the council’s finance department, was arrested two weeks ago in connection with the theft of R5,000 from the coffers of the council. She was arrested on August 29.

A spokesman for the police in Klerksdorp yesterday confirmed the arrest and said the accused, who is out on bail, will appear in the local magistrate’s court next Wednesday, September 21.

Councillors interviewed by the Sowetan confirmed that another employee who allegedly bought an expensive car worth about R50,000 and paid off a R55,000 housing loan within two years, was fired recently.

Investigations into his financial transactions have been launched.

The Sowetan has also been reliably informed that two other council employees, including a woman, were suspended from their official duties two weeks ago following allegations of theft and disobeying the orders of a senior.
Residents are suspicious of the vigilante squad

By Shehnaz BuBulla 20/03/78

A Rustenburg security unit, which has been formed the 'A-Team Vigilante Force' by Zinniaville residents who fear that the unit will abuse its power and harass people, has been a main topic of conversation in the township since a decision was made to revamp the organisation earlier this month.

But a member of the Zinniaville Citizens Force (ZCF) said the aim was to protect both rich and poor from criminals. And the district commander of the Rustenburg police, Colonel J F Strydom, said he felt crime prevention units were a good idea.

Resident says: ZCF says:

Those opposing the establishment of the unit asked The Star not to release their names for fear of being victimised.

The spokesman said: "The ZCF told us they would protect the community, but it's turning into a nightmare because the unit is beginning to act like the A-team."

They said some members of the unit were part of a police reservist group which patrolled the township and surrounding areas three years ago. The unit was not accepted by a majority of the community and some of its members, they alleged, were racist.

They feared it could turn into a dangerous situation if the force, which comprised 200 people, took the law into their own hands.

Members of the community had not questioned the unit's growing power because the protection of their property was uppermost in their minds.

The force is now collecting R20 from each family because they want R12 000 for equipment, but refuse to say what type of equipment. Dr E Ahmed, one of the officials on the ad hoc committee established to revitalise the ZCF, said: "We are a peace-keeping force and our aim is to guard our area.

"The initiative to revamp the unit was the result of the growing crime rate in the area."

"The community is aware that we are providing a service and have accepted the idea."

"This is indicative by the large numbers who have joined us. Over 150 volunteers have joined, of which 15 patrol the area every night."

"People who enter the township late at night are courteously stopped and questioned. Those who refuse will be followed and their car registration numbers taken down."

In the event of any incident taking place the person who refused to comply would be contacted and the lenders would decide on what to do.

He said some members carried ammunition, but they would have to adhere to a set of disciplinary codes.

"We do not intend taking the law into our hands," Dr Ahmed said.
Security forces act in Pretoria

Pretoria Correspondent

Pretoria yesterday got a no-nonsense introduction to tough new crime prevention tactics of the South African Police when more than 150 members of the security services conducted random searches throughout the centre of the city and the eastern suburbs.

People stared in bewilderment as Casspirs and Nonquas riot control vehicles blocked intersections, disgorging armed troops and police who lined pavements and barred the entrances to shops.

"This is a routine police procedure... please be patient," an amplified voice recited in Afrikaans, English and Sotho.

While troops armed with R-1 rifles guarded the perimeter of the search area, police moved down the street in line abreast. Traffic officers directed motorists away from the search area.

Ten minutes after the search started it was all over.

The police action was aimed at preventing crime and fighting terrorism, said the police officer in charge of search operations, Brigadier Chris van Niekerk.

No arrests were made.
THIEF SHOT DEAD IN JAIL

A BANK robber was shot dead and his accomplice wounded when police opened fire on them at the Johannesburg Prison after they received long jail terms from the Johannesburg Supreme Court on Friday.

The death of Mr. Wesley Shongwe (25), of Alexandra Township, who has started his life as a shop assistant and moved on to become a hotel manager, was confirmed by SAPA on Friday.

The shooting took place in the prison yard, where the two men were being held incommunicado after being found guilty of armed robbery.

A free press representative said that the two men had been held incommunicado for over a year and that there were reports of torture at the prison.

The death of Mr. Shongwe has caused shock and outrage among the residents of Alexandra Township, who have called for an investigation into the circumstances of his death.

Witnesses said that they saw Mr. Shongwe being dragged away by police officers and that there were reports of severe beatings.

A spokesman for the South African Human Rights Commission said that the commission would investigate the matter.

By THOMBABA MOLEFE

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Striker is killed in hotel foyer

A STRIKING member of the Commercial Catering and Allied Workers' Union was shot dead in the lobby of a plush Johannesburg hotel yesterday.

The striker, Mr. John Mkhize, who was employed at the Johannesburg Sun, was gunned down in the foyer of the hotel allegedly by an armed security guard.

Members of Caawusa at the hotel are on strike following a dispute over working hours on June 16.

A company spokesman confirmed that the incident was under investigation and that Mr. Mkhize had taken up a position in the foyer to confront the guards.

The striker was shot in the head and his body was dragged into a dark corner.

By JOSHUA HABOROBOKO and SAPA

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REPORTS, pictures and comments in this edition may be censored in terms of the Government's state of emergency.
It was not theft, says defence in Mahobe case

By SONTI MASEKO

MR Zola Mahobe — the former Mamelodi Sundowns boss accused of stealing about R6 million from Standard Bank — made another appearance at the Johannesburg Regional Court yesterday where his defence attorney pleaded that he should not be found guilty of theft.

His lawyer, Mr Dikgang Moseke, argued that the mere depositing of unauthorized funds into Mr Mahobe's account by his lover, Miss Snowy Moshoeshoe, and the use of such funds did not amount to theft.

The case resumed after a six-week recess when the State prosecutor Mr C Erasmus submitted that Mr Mahobe should be convicted of five counts of theft of Standard Bank money.

Mr Moseke asked the State to consider that theft, which is an essential element of theft, was absent in Mahobe's case. He argued that Mr Mahobe conducted all his business transactions in an open way and his account was 'run normally' and was opened to detection at the bank. He had no desire to conceal anything, he said.

Mr Erasmus said Mr Mahobe failed to show that he had no knowledge that the money deposited into his account was stolen from the bank. Alternatively, he argued Mr Mahobe should be found guilty because according to the evidence given by Miss Moshoeshoe, he received money from the family's estate account — knowing that Miss Moshoeshoe's mother did not consent to the loans.

He submitted that Mr Mahobe's version, that he borrowed the money and also believed it had come from his lover's family estate in Lesotho; and that he was going to start repayment in 1989 should not be accepted by the court.

The prosecutor rejected Mr Mahobe's explanation that he intended returning to South Africa from Botswana because he believed he had done nothing wrong as an infamous Bega. But the defence lawyer Mr Moseke argued that the evidence of Miss Moshoeshoe who was declared a hostile witness by the court should be considered.

He said the court could not accept portions of Miss Moshoeshoe's evidence, for instance those which explained how she defrauded the bank.

(Proceeding)
600 suspects held in big crime sweep

More than 600 suspects were arrested, 400 for minor offences, by Witswatersrand police after a massive crime prevention operation on Friday, a police spokesman said today.

Lieutenant-Colonel Frans Malherbe said the arrests had been made between 8 am until midnight in Johannesburg, Randburg, Sandton and Midrand.

The suspects were arrested on charges ranging from drunken driving to murder.
All cases of intimidation reported to police in Johannesburg, Malmesbury, Sandton and Pretoria will be investigated. The SAP identifies intimidation as a problem area and will coordinate investigations accordingly.

"This is especially relevant during either elections or during other elections or..."
THE MAN WHO STOPPED THE SLAUGHTER

"Something in me snapped. I just had to stop the man, and I did."

Winnie upset by White Wolves near her home

WINNIE Mandela yesterday said police had failed to inform her on the outcome of investigations about her alleged sighting of people she suspected to be members of the White Wolves.

By CHARLES MOGALE

A SLIGHTLY built, unemployed Mamelodi man was the hero of this week's mass shooting of hands in the air, and I searched him. "I found about 15 bullets and an unopened packet containing more than 100. He also carried a 20cm knife. With his hands in the air, I ordered him out of the shop and beckoned the police to take him. They handcuffed him."
WHO STUFFED THE SLAUGHTER

"Something in me snapped. I just had to stop the man, and I did."

WINNIE upset by White Wolves near her home

WINNIE Mandela yesterday said police had failed to inform her about the outcome of investigations about her alleged sighting of police who suspected to be members of the White Wolves organization near her home last week.

Lawyer Ruth Nicholls said her fears were confirmed by the massacre in Pretoria this week in which the self-confessed leader of the White Wolves, Berend Strydom, allegedly opened fire on black pedestrians with a handmade shotguns, killing six people and wounding 15.

Simon Khomoaho Mukandeli, 35, the man who repeatedly fired his shotgun in the street of Pretoria, was reported earlier.

He is Simon Khomoaho Mukandeli, 35, who fired his shotgun in the street of Pretoria, as reported earlier.

The man who fired his shotgun in the street of Pretoria, was reported earlier.

Strydom sent for mental tests

A MAGESTRATE yesterday sent the alleged gunman responsible for the week's shooting massacre in Pretoria, Berend Hendrik Strydom, 23, for mental evaluation.

Appearing calm and collected, Strydom said he had no interest in participating in the legal proceedings until he received a police clearance from his local police station.

Scores of people in Pretoria's Pretorius Street gathered around a police cordon as policemen searched the street for the man who had allegedly killed five people and wounded 20.

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Scores of people in Pretoria's Pretorius Street gathered around a police cordon as policemen searched the street for the man who had allegedly killed five people and wounded 20.
Du Plessis jnr under scrutiny

Own Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG. — Advocate-General Mr Justice Piet van der Walt yesterday confirmed that he was investigating the sale of a Pretoria building to Mr Johan du Plessis, the son of the Minister of Manpower and Public Works, Mr Pietie du Plessis, following a complaint.

Mr Du Plessis jnr bought Housing Building in Volksstem Avenue, Pretoria, from Sanlam for R2m on June 10 last year.

The building is leased by the Department of Public Works, which is included in the minister's portfolio.

Mr Van der Walt said yesterday: "A complaint was received of possible improper advantage or enrichment in respect of a lease concerning Mr Du Plessis jnr and the Housing Building."

He said he could not say when the results of the inquiry would be available.

The minister and his son have declined to comment.
12 murdered in Soweto

At least 12 people were killed in various acts of violence in Soweto over the weekend.

Eleven of the victims were either stabbed with knives or sharp instruments while one victim was gunned down.

According to Major Fanyana Zwane, the Soweto police, one person was arrested in one of the murder cases.

Five attempted murder cases were reported to the police, with one arrest in one case.

On Saturday at 8:30pm, eight black men entered a shop in Dobsonville and threatened the owner with a firearm and knives before robbing her of R1500. One person was arrested. This was one of the five armed robberies reported over the weekend.

Eleven women were raped and police arrested four people in four of the cases.

Police recovered 32 suspected stolen vehicles and 12 positively identified stolen vehicles were recovered.

On the liquor front, 29 people were arrested for dealing in liquor without licences. Police also confiscated 26 dozen of 750ml beer, four dozen 375ml beer and two dozen 340ml beer.

Seven people were arrested for dealing in dagga and mandrax.
Reserve Bank's cheque scam — warning

By Dirk Nel,
Northern Transvaal Bureau

PIETERSBURG: Police have asked shops not to accept Reserve Bank cheques from buyers because a major fraud racket has been uncovered.

The warning comes after "missing" Reserve Bank refund cheques from the Receiver of Revenue started to appear at furniture shops, outfitters and supermarkets in Pietersburg.

Commercial Branch detectives have taken possession of 11 cheques totalling more than R5 000, which were evidently stolen from recipients' letter boxes, and then presented in shops as payment for goods.

Two men were arrested this week after they had asked a shopkeeper to cash Reserve Bank cheques for them.

"The shops have not been particularly fussy about the cheques because they are bank guaranteed, but they tend to forget that their accounts will simply be debited if fraud is established," said Lieutenant LC Steyn, head of the Commercial Crime Unit in Pietersburg.

He pointed out that if shops refused to accept such cheques, the thefts would probably stop as this method of buying goods would become impractical.
More arrests expected to be made at Baragwanath

By DESMOND BLOW

A TOTAL of 49 Baragwanath Hospital workers have been arrested, including 32 security guards who appeared at the Orlando Magistrate's Court this week on charges of theft following a six-month investigation into theft and corruption at the hospital.

According to Declan Condon, chief of Security Services Consultants - a company hired by the TPA to conduct the investigations, 20 more arrests are expected to be made.

Condon said investigations had revealed a number of items, including peanut butter, spades, linen, crockery, condoms, and expensive drugs and medicine, had disappeared from the hospital.

Investigators have so far recovered about 1,000 tablets, including mandrax and morphine. Towels, bedpans, laundry, surgical instruments, crockery and cutlery stolen from the hospital have also been recovered from the homes of the alleged thieves.

"It is estimated that between 60kg and 70kg of top-grade fillet steak was stolen daily. "One man had set up his own business to cure syphilis and gonorrhea. He made up packets of medicine and sold them for R5 a packet," said Condon.

Baragwanath chief superintendent Dr Chris van den Heever this week said other provincial hospitals were also being watched.

Condon said it was impossible for any organisation as enormous as Baragwanath Hospital - with about 7,000 employees and thousands of patients in overcrowded conditions - to keep check on everything in the hospital.

"It is the same in all large organisations. We have also investigated four private clinics and have found similar transgressions, but not on the scale of Baragwanath. However, there has not been any publicity about the clinics because they are privately owned and they decided to handle the matter internally.

"In another large industrial company we found that 19 senior white employees were pilfering goods worth thousands of rand. The company decided not to call in the police but to handle the matter internally.

"In the matter of Baragwanath it was different. It is taxpayers' money and we were instructed by the TPA to call in the police."

Condon said although large companies normally had their own security organisations, and most of the security people were honest, it was not easy for them to catch the criminals.

"We send people in clandestinely. They frequent places where employees go - such as shebeens. We have actually had people buy some of the stolen goods from thieves."

He added that so many people were involved in pillaging at Baragwanath that there had to be collusion, although no crime syndicate had been discovered so far.

Condon paid tribute to his staff for helping break the back of the racket.
By Stan Hlohe

Thirteen Baragwanath Hospital staff members appeared briefly in the Orlando Magistrate’s Court yesterday on theft charges.

Their appearance was a sequel to a police sweep on hospital staff last week in connection with allegations of thefts involving drugs and goods.

The 13 accused pleaded not guilty. Their bail of R100 each was extended until they make further appearances between December 12 to December 19.

One employee was last week convicted and fined R300 or 300 days’ imprisonment by magistrate Mr PN Coetzee.

Those in court yesterday were: Ms Grace Ndaba, Mr Ephraim Mojapelo, Ms Irene Tshabalala, Ms Elizabeth Moloi, Ms Beatrix Thango, Mr Benedict Mongalo, Mr France Mongalo, Ms Agnes Mvelase, Mr Stephen Khantsi, Ms Dumazile Mbatha, Mr Philemon Mbatha, Mr Michael Mongalo and Ms Zandile Miangeni.

In a similar crackdown at Randpark Clinic, Hillbrow, a month ago 14 people were implicated in various allegations of theft. Four people have already been charged with dealing in dangerous drugs and they will appear in the Johannesburg Magistrate’s Court on January 13.
Duros Bank changes name and structure

DUROS BANK HOLDING CO (DBH) intends to develop a specialist merchant banking operation, chairman Reg Sherrell disclosed yesterday. Wholly-owned subsidiary Duros Bank has changed its name to Duros Merchant Bank, and has been capitalized with an issued share capital of R14m.

"This development will result in an extension of Duros' activities which until now have been concentrated in the corporate and project finance areas," said Sherrell.

"It is noteworthy that a key objective of affording management and staff a meaningful stake in the bank has now been accomplished."

Sherrell said DMB would now focus its efforts on the specialist niche areas of financial and banking services as opposed to a large scale involvement in the commercial banking lending function.

Johan Claassen and Hennie Diedericks, both formerly of the Volkskas Group, will represent the Duros Group as non-executive directors on the board of DMB.

Other non-executive directors will be corporate attorney Gerald Rubenstein, economist Azar Jamine and Gerard de Baviau, executive director of Grovewalk Holdings.

Commodity Index: 1863.0
Platinum: $597.50
Palladium: $127.50
Raw Sugar: £153.50

trusts

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TWO unionists were allegedly shot dead by police who were investigating a case of theft at the Basil Reed Construction Company's hostel at Creecy near Naboomspruit last week.

Mr Reuben Sithole and Mr Lucky Khumalo, who are both shop stewards of the Cosatu-affiliated Construction and Allied Workers Union, were discussing with colleagues in the hostel when the police fired shots at them, a union official claimed.

Basil Reed's manpower director, Mr Brian Maynard, yesterday confirmed the incident, which he said has caused "a lot of interest in the company's ranks".

He said police were summoned to the hostel to investigate a case of theft. He did not know what had happened during their investigation, but he understood that shots were fired and the two men were killed.

"We are obviously concerned about the alleged shooting and will institute our own inquiry into the circumstances leading to the fatal shooting," Mr. Maynard said.

The matter has been reported to the police who are investigating, he added.

The SAP public relations division in Pretoria yesterday said on November 20, 1988 at about 20h00 two black men were arrested at the Basil Read compound, Naboomspruit. They were suspects in a case of theft of a power generator.

When the two constables arrived at their police vehicle with the suspects, they found that the vehicle was surrounded by a large group of black men. They were busy pushing a third constable around and taunting him. The group was warned to disperse but they took no notice.
Suspended MP jailed for 5 years

JOHANNESBURG. — Suspended National Party MP and current independent MP for Hillbrow Leon De Beer was sentenced to three years' imprisonment — with one year suspended for five years — in the Regional Court here yesterday.

This follows his conviction on 70 counts of electoral fraud, the handing in of 58 false address changes in his writing and the casting of 12 false special votes — on October 17. All the charges related to the last general election on May 6, 1987.
35 arrested, many quizzed in teenage vice swoop

TWO Cabinet members witnessed a massive crackdown on teenage vice in Hillbrow this weekend, when more than 500 police swooped on gambling clubs and unlicensed liquor outlets.

A special task force confiscated 30 slot machines valued at more than R10m, arrested 30 people and questioned hundreds more.

They were accompanied by Minister of Law and Order Adriaan Vlok, his wife, Corrie, and son, Riaan, 15.

Deputy Minister Leon Wessels also saw groups of drunken kids — some only 13 — loaded into police vans early yesterday.

Dogs were used to disperse unruly crowds as young girls cried and begged the police not to tell their parents where they had been.

The raids were carried out simultaneously at 18 venues, including the Chelsea Hotel, King Kim, Little Honeydew Hotel, Twilight Zone, Bella Napoli and Highpoint.

During the raids:
- A man was arrested for disturbing the peace;
- Five dockets were opened against managers or owners of licensed premises where liquor was being sold to minors;
- A man was arrested for using abusive language in public;
- Ten prostitution dockets were opened;
- One person was arrested for possession of mandrax;
- Three arrests were made for possession of dagga;
- Ninety dozen beers and three dozen cases of mixed liquor were confiscated from unlicensed premises;
- Seven people were detained overnight for drunk and disorderly behaviour.

Mr Vlok later appealed to parents to make sure their children were at night, especially during school holidays.

Lieutenant-General Molder van Eyk, Chief Deputy Commissioner of Police, said it was the first of several crime-prevention operations aimed at combating juvenile delinquency.

"We will pay ongoing attention to areas like Hillbrow, where child abuse and crime are rife," he said.
Prescriptions stolen to obtain drugs

Police are investigating hundreds of thefts of prescriptions and forgeries used to obtain dangerous and addictive drugs.

And pharmacists have been asked to contact the John Vorster Square Narcotics Bureau immediately if they are handed or know of false prescriptions.

A spokesman for the Johannesburg Hospital confirmed that a number of prescriptions had recently been stolen there.

Other hospitals and private clinics across the Reef could be involved.

Police said the major problem centred on doctors' waiting rooms.

"A number of fraudulent pre-
scriptions have been picked up by conscientious pharmacies. These have been handed to the narcotics bureau," a Johannesburg Hospital spokesman said.

A spokesman for the J.G. Strijdom Hospital confirmed that prescription thefts occurred "from time to time on an ongoing basis".

"We take precautions such as locking up our prescriptions, but some still manage to slip through. Some of the forgeries are very authentic," said the superintendent, Dr Anette van der Merwe.

Police say the problem is widespread. The most common drug obtained by fraudulent prescriptions is Wellconal — often used by addicts to “spike” themselves with syringes.

Addicts had even used letasets to fill in false prescriptions.

A nursing sister said yesterday that she was contacted by a Malvern pharmacy on Tuesday and asked for payment for 30 Wellconal tablets.

"Someone must have got hold of a prescription pad at the Johannesburg Hospital and some stickers with my personal information on it.

"The fraudulent prescription even mentioned the dge I was discharged from hospital."

*See Page 15.
A new program is being launched to help drug addicts.

"If you recognize a sign of a drug addict, it's important to let them know. If they're using drugs, they need to be referred to a treatment program," said Dr. Willmore.

The program, which is being run by the William Street Center, is aimed at helping addicts get the help they need.

"We want to make sure that people know that help is available," said Dr. Willmore.

The program includes counseling, support groups, and medication assistance.

"We've had a lot of success with our previous program," said Dr. Willmore.

The program is being funded by a grant from the government.

"We're very grateful for the support," said Dr. Willmore.

The program has already helped many people get off drugs and back on track.

"It's been a huge success," said Dr. Willmore.

The program is open to anyone who needs help.

"We want to make sure that everyone has a chance to get the help they need," said Dr. Willmore.

The program is being run by a team of experienced counselors and doctors.

"We have a lot of experience in this area," said Dr. Willmore.

The program is free to the public.

"We want to make sure that everyone can get the help they need," said Dr. Willmore.

The program is open to anyone who needs help.

"We want to make sure that everyone can get the help they need," said Dr. Willmore.

For more information, please visit the William Street Center website.
**Bank official shot during holdup**

FOUR armed robbers shot and wounded a man and fled with an estimated R10,000 in cash after holding up a bank in Kerk Street, Johannesburg, yesterday morning.

A Brixton Murder and Robbery Squad spokesman said the men, three with firearms and one armed with a knife, entered the premises of the Trust Bank branch on the corner of Kerk and Diagonal streets at 10am.

Bank official Andre Oiwage, 25, was shot in the right leg with a .45 revolver after delaying the robber's access to the cash, police said.

It is suspected the robbers used a stolen blue/grey BMW, which was found abandoned near the bank, the police spokesman said.

A bank representative said the R10,000 figure was an initial estimate and the bank was still checking on the exact amount stolen.

Oiwage's condition is described as not serious.

Police investigations are continuing.

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*Charlene Mathew and Brent Melville*
Six murders, 21 rapes in Soweto

Six murders and 21 rapes were reported by Soweto police in a comparatively "quiet" weekend, said police spokesman Major Noel Hartwell.

In addition, four attempted murders were also reported in the township, as were 33 robberies.

Eight cars were stolen, but police recovered 50 stolen vehicles.

Narcotics detectives arrested 14 suspects in connection with selling liquor without licences and another five allegedly caught with Mandrax and dagga.
PRETORIA. — Two officials allegedly implicated in irregularities in the awarding of contracts by the works division of the Department of Development Aid were suspended from their posts yesterday, the Minister of Education and Development Aid, Dr Gerrit Viljoen, said here.

He said Mr C H J Botha and Mr J M Koorn had been denied further access to the department's activities and premises.

Meanwhile, several issues had been referred to the police for investigation and possible prosecution.

Dr Viljoen said allegations of irregularities in the awarding of contracts by certain development aid officials had been under investigation for some time by the department, the advocate-general and the auditor-general, who were proceeding with investigations as to whether more matters should be referred to the police.

Dr Viljoen said a committee chaired by a deputy director-general of the department was now entrusted with the making of recommendations regarding the awarding of contracts for the acquisition of goods or services.

An outside consultant had been appointed to investigate the control systems and procedures surrounding these functions. — Sapa
Police ask public to co-operate

Crime Reporter

The police have appealed for public co-operation in the fight against crime in the holiday season.

Several hints on crime prevention were given in a statement, issued in Pretoria yesterday and firearm security was emphasised. Owners of firearms should not leave their weapons at home and should note that private storage facilities were available, the statement advised.

Another issue raised was that of child abuse. Children should be educated from an early age not to converse with or accept gifts from strangers — and not to get into their cars.

The statement urged people to be on the alert for possible bombs. Suspicious packets or articles should be reported to the police immediately.
'Business watch' a first for SA

The Johannesburg CBD has scored a first in South Africa with the formation of a business watch to protect two central city blocks bounded by Jeppe, Von Wielligh, President and Joubert streets.

The Crime Prevention Committee was formed by the South African Police and the Witwatersrand Chamber of Commerce.

During normal trading hours each block has two policemen assigned to it. They must get to know all the shopkeepers in their block and will encourage them to co-operate with each other on security matters.

The Business Watch officers are in constant radio contact with police headquarters. The CBD says that shopkeepers have reported that reactions to calls were much quicker and the service was already showing gratifying results.
Convicted murderer Seheri appears in court

Oupa Seheri (33) appeared briefly in the Rand Supreme Court yesterday.

Seheri, who stored firearms at Mrs Winnie Mandela's house, has been convicted of committing two murders, two attempted murders and being in unlawful possession of a Scorpion machine pistol, an AK47 rifle and ammunition.

The trial was postponed until February 1 next year so that Seheri can undergo further psychological tests. Mrs Mandela and her daughter Zinti were in court yesterday.

Seheri shot Mr Xola Mokhala on January 24 last year after they had a fight at a shebeen over Seheri burning a hole in Mr Mokhala's trousers.

"KILL THE DOG"

Seheri's co-accused, Priscilla Lindiwe Mkhonza, urged Seheri to "kill the dog" to get rid of evidence of the earlier murder of Mr Mandela Ngubeni. She was recently sentenced to 10 years' imprisonment.

Sentence will not be passed on Seheri until the defence team has completed evidence in mitigation, which will include the results of psychological tests.

The court has heard he has a history which suggests low frustration tolerance.

Mr Justice B O'Donovan was on the bench.
JOHANNESBURG.—Rapport has written to the advocate-general, Mr Fiet van der Walt, apologising for the way his name was coupled with aspects of a report about property transactions involving companies associated with Mr Johan du Plessis, son of the minister of manpower.

The report on December 4 contained allegations that the office and position of the minister, Mr Pietie du Plessis, had been misused in the interests of the Du Plessis companies.

The minister has denied the allegations and stated he intends taking legal action against Rapport.

Rapport said yesterday it had not yet received notice of any legal action.

**Documentary evidence**

Referring to the advocate-general, it said it had written the letter at his request, apologising for any mistaken impression given.

The newspaper added that its report on December 4 was based on documentary evidence made available to it.

Rapport also reported yesterday that Mr Johan du Plessis had accompanied a group of policemen when they raided the home of his father-in-law and former business partner, Mr Johan Mörsner, to seize tapes and documents concerning certain transactions.

Mr Mörsner was the managing director of Natprop from July 1986 to March 1987. Rapport said, a company in which Mr Johan du Plessis had a strong interest.

Police comment on the report could not be obtained yesterday.
I was forced to sign a statement, says accused

By Jovial Rantao

On her second day in the witness box yesterday, an accused in the Baragwanath Hospital theft case said she had been promised that “things would be made easier” for her if she admitted stealing hospital property.

Miss Grace Ndaba (47) of Soweto said in the Orlando Magistrate’s Court that she had been taken to the Wynberg offices of the investigating firm, Security Services Consultants, on November 17. The following day, one of the investigators, Mr Andries Moloi, had told her that she was under arrest and that he would “make things easier for me if I accepted that I had stolen hospital property”.

Miss Ndaba said that after she refused Mr Moloi’s offer, she was called into an office and instructed to transcribe a statement written by one of the investigators and forced to sign it at gunpoint.

She added that she and a group of other employees were then taken to Orlando Police Station in Soweto, where they were locked up.

Miss Ndaba has pleaded not guilty.

The case was postponed to Wednesday.
Ex-councillor in court over NBS shoot-and-run

Own Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG. — Former Pretoria City Councillor Mr Piet “Skiet” Roedolf, 51, appeared in the Pretoria North Magistrate’s Court yesterday in connection with the shotgun attack on the NBS branch in Pretoria North this week and was released on R100 bail.

Mr Roedolf’s appearance follows his arrest shortly after two men in a red bakkie were seen pulling up outside the Pretoria North branch of NBS in Gerrit Maritz Avenue at 2am and then discharging two rounds from a shotgun at the facade.

He has been described as a former policeman and a member of the HNP and AWB.

He was also a CP councillor before standing as an independent and getting defeated by the CP in the recent municipal elections.
AT least four people were killed in various acts of violence in Soweto at the weekend. Soweto police liaison officer, Lieutenant-Colonel Fanyana Zwane, said yesterday.

Three of the victims died of knife wounds while one of a bullet wound.

A nine-year-old girl was the youngest victim in the 38 rape cases reported. Police arrested 10 people in nine of the cases.

Seven motor car thefts were reported and police recovered 25 stolen vehicles.

THE body of Mr Solomzi Gqomo (34), of Klipspruit, Soweto, was found by horrified neighbours in the early hours of yesterday morning with several stab wounds. It appeared as if after he was stabbed, a car drove over his body several times.

PL. NKOSENTU PJWAMBI.
Gunmen walk into shop, shoot two visiting policemen

By Craig Kotze, Crime Reporter

Two policemen were shot and wounded — one critically — at point-blank range by two unidentified gunmen yesterday morning in front of horrified staff at a cosmetics shop in Industria.

Both policemen, from Langlaagte Police Station, were taken to Hillbrow Hospital after the shootings.

A massive search has been launched for two black gunmen. Police across the Reef have been alerted and detectives have appealed to anyone with information to come forward.

From behind

Constable M Mamabolo was shot in the neck and is in serious condition. Constable Osborne Dhudla was hit in the left side but was not seriously hurt, said Witwatersrand police spokesman Major Dries Jacobs.

Both men were shot from behind.

Major Jacobs said Constables Mamabolo and Dhudla were on a foot patrol in Maraisburg Road when they entered the premises of Jabulani Cosmetics.

While standing at the counter, two unknown gunmen entered and fired two shots. Detectives later found one empty 9mm pistol cartridge at the scene. They are now investigating what kind of weapons were used in the attempted killings.

The gunmen fled the scene on foot but might have had a getaway vehicle parked nearby, Major Jacobs said.

Jabulani Cosmetics manager Mr Ayob Khan said the two policemen were part of regular SAP patrols in the area. "They just popped in to chat with some staff members. Then these two guys walked in and shot them. It happened very fast. It was shocking."

"Nobody really got a look at the gunmen," said a still-shaken Mr Khan.

The shootings bring to 11 the number of known members of the security forces either killed or wounded in Johannesburg and Soweto in shootings in recent weeks.

These include two SAP men shot dead and a third wounded in a hail of AK-47 bullets in Orlando, Soweto. Another three municipal policemen were wounded in an AK-47 ambush in Diepkloof two days later and last week two special constables died and a third was wounded in the ambush tragedy involving the SADF.
Man with AK-47 shoots five dead in Soweto home

By Craig Kotze, Crime Reporter

A man with an AK-47 rifle shot dead four men and a woman and wounded another two people in a Soweto home last night, police reported.

The wounded, a man and a woman, were taken to hospital. One of the dead men was a policeman.

Police are hunting the gunman and men who were with him. No motive for the killings has emerged.

The man entered house 1674 at 11.55 in Orlando East and sprayed the occupants with bullets.

SERIES OF ATTACKS

The name of the dead policeman, a constable based at Orlando police station, has not yet been released as his family has not yet been informed. The names of the other victims were also not available.

The shootings were the latest in a series of AK-47 attacks in the township in recent months.

Two policemen have been shot dead and several municipal policemen have been wounded in ambushes involving AK-47 gunmen.

So far as is known, no arrests have been made in connection with these attacks.

Police said earlier that the AK-47 shootings were not necessarily the work of ANC members. Criminal elements also had access to communist weapons, including the Skorpion machine pistol used by the PAC.
Anti-crime drive nets 300

Pretoria Correspondent

In an anti-crime drive in Pretoria at the weekend police arrested more than 300 people on charges ranging from murder and rape to a variety of petty crimes.

And at least four people were killed and seven injured in crimes and accidents during a relatively quiet Christmas weekend.

According to Lieutenant Henrie Crowther, police liaison officer for the northern Transvaal, 305 people were arrested by the police at the weekend. Of these, 77 were held in connection with serious crimes. A number of stolen fire-arms were also seized.

Three people died and another three were injured yesterday in a car accident on the Pietersburg highway. The collision, at about 3.30 am, occurred at the Rigil off-ramp. The names of the people involved will be released later.

A Laudium man died after being stabbed with a sharp object. Mr Keith Harris, of Carmine Road, was found lying in the street on Friday with a stab wound in his chest. A friend drove him to the local hospital where he received stitches before returning home.

Mr Harris's condition deteriorated and he died on Saturday at 5.30 am. No arrests have been made.

A policeman was lightly injured on Sunday when he was accidentally shot by his partner while the two were about to apprehend a suspect.

Constables F Hlongwane and E D Rastimpi were blocking entrances to a Soshanguve house where an alleged escaper was hiding. The man flung a brick through a window at Constable Rasimpi, who then fired a shot which hit Constable Hlongwane. The suspect fled. Police are investigating.

Three armed robbers got away with R32,527 after forcing an employee of the United Building Society in Brookhorstspruit to open the safe.

Mrs Valerie de Lange (46) was confronted by three gun-wielding men who forced her to open the safe and hand over the money. No shots were fired and no arrests have been made.

Two men were arrested after they had robbed a woman of her car. Mrs Elizabeth Turton (47) had stopped at the Dikhololo turn-off, on the Brits-Beestekraal Road, when three men jumped into her car..After driving for about 10 km, Mrs Turton jumped out of the car and ran away. The three men raced off.

Two witnesses, Mr B le Roxx and Mr S Ferreira, gave chase in their car until the suspect's car got stuck in a ditch. One man fired a shot, hitting Mr Ferreira in his left leg. Another witness joined the chase and two of the suspects were arrested.

Two people were seriously injured in separate car accidents in the city at the weekend.

An unidentified man was rushed to Kalafong Hospital at about 5.30 am after being knocked over by a bus near the station. The accident, on the corner of Railway and Tulleken streets, occurred when a bus apparently had to swerve to avoid colliding with a car.

A collision between a motorcycle and a car in Silverton resulted in one man being seriously injured. No further details were available.

Tragic weekend sees six dead

Own Correspondent

KLERSDORP — Two men and a woman died in three separate shooting incidents in the western Transvaal over the Christmas weekend.

Another three people died in unrelated incidents — a road accident, a suffocation and a drowning.

The first shooting was on Friday at 2.15 am when Mr B W D Geldenhuis (45) of Waterkloof, Rustenburg, apparently shot himself at the home of Mr Adri Smuts of the farm Weltevreden.

Mrs Sophie Marie Haasbroek (46), of Carletonville, died from a bullet wound in the head at 10.36 pm on Friday.

Mr Johannes Nicolaas Breedt (54) of Grove Road, Blyvooruitzicht, was found with a bullet wound in his head at 4 am yesterday.

According to Lieuten-ant-Colonel Henry Austin, assistant divisional criminal investigation officer for the western Transvaal, a letter was found near the body.

Colonel Austin said no foul play was suspected in any of the cases.

● An employee of the Vaal Reefs mine at Orkney, Mr Theo Krusa (37), died on Friday evening after the car in which he was travelling hit a ox on the Wolmaransdorp road outside Klerksdorp.

● Mr David Mokolo (45) of Garsfontein, Lichtenburg, died on Friday when an embankment collapsed.

● Mr Izak Johannes Badenhorst (28) of South Hills, Johannesburg, drowned while swimming in Deekraal Dam.
Xmas: 35 killed

THIRTY-five people were murdered during a violent Christmas weekend in the Vaal Triangle, West Rand and Soweto.

Police spokesman Lieutenant Colonel Fanyana Zwane said that of this number, 26 were killed in Soweto. Ten people were arrested in seven of the cases.

He said police also reported seven attempted murders and 40 rape cases. Ten men were arrested for rape.

Armed

In one of a number of murder incidents in Soweto, a 63-year-old Meadowlands man was in his hostel room on Christmas Eve when two armed men burst in and demanded money. After taking R1 600 in cash from him one of the men fired a shot which killed the elderly man instantly.

Police also reported seven armed robberies in Soweto, 23 muggings, 28 theft cases, 11 thefts from cars, 21 houses burgled, seven business premises broken into and 11 cars stolen. — Sapa.
CRIME - GENERAL

1989 JAN. - MAY.
Reserve BankSpecial Squad Leads Probe

Fraud Scams

Millions

The Reserve

Correspondent

Johannesburg — The Reserve

Own Correspondent

The Reserve

Bank is Investigating Foreign Ex-
change Fraud Case of Rands, "Reserve" - Charge
denied millions of foreign currency
src="https://example.com/"}/
Vermaas tax file left for 3 years by Receiver

PRETORIA.—Fraud suspect Mr Albert Vermaas’s income tax file lay for three years at the offices of the Receiver of Revenue’s inspectors, that did not know what to do with it, the Receiver of Revenue, Mr Andries Viljoen, told the Harms Commission yesterday.

Mr Vermaas’s income tax returns for 1985, 1986 and 1987 had not been submitted.

Mr Viljoen said he had assisted in getting the file up to date, and Mr Vermaas was fined.

Mr Viljoen also told the commission that he had twice gone to Mr Vermaas’s Transvaal game farm.

Sensitive information

He said that while the tax file was being brought up to date, Mr Vermaas’s accountant told him that certain information could not be furnished because it concerned the circumvention of sanctions, and was of a sensitive nature.

Mr Viljoen said he gave Mr Vermaas general advice on tax matters, including tax payable on aircraft belonging to a US company that would be used to circumvent sanction measures against South Africa.

A Reserve Bank official said yesterday that he was twice invited to Mr Vermaas’s Nambian farm.

Mr Arnold Peacey, who heads the Reserve Bank’s multilateral relations and development affairs section, told the Commission that Mr Vermaas had flown him, as a member of a “small private party”, to Mr Vermaas’s Namibian farm and back on both occasions in June 1987 and mid 1988.

The Minister of Defence, General Magnus Malan, and his son accompanied the party.

Asked how come he had come to be an intermediary, Mr Peacey said that, on an occasion, Mr Vermaas said he had aircraft on the ground, which was a costly business, and asked whether Mr Peacey could “inquire what was going on” regarding forex applications to the Reserve Bank.—Saps.

Barend feared a R150m ‘scam’.
R550-million foreign exchange probe

The Argus Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG. — Commercial Branch detectives are investigating foreign exchange contraventions totalling about R554-million, a spokesman said today.

The shock statement comes after an announcement at the weekend by the Reserve Bank that a special investigation team set up by the bank was investigating foreign exchange contraventions totalling hundreds of millions of rand.

Foreign exchange is regarded as the "lifeblood" of the South African economy.

Amounts involved in investigations being conducted by other offices of the Commercial Branch are not yet known.

Witwatersrand police spokesman Lieutenant-Colonel Frans Malherbe confirmed today that John Vorster Square detectives were investigating 20 cases of foreign exchange fraud involving "about" R554-million.

He said over-invoicing formed an "integral part" of the amounts involved but he did not say exactly how much. The Reserve Bank has identified over-invoicing as a great "evil" in foreign exchange contraventions.

Colonel Malherbe said some of the cases being probed by Johannesburg detectives were also being investigated by the Reserve Bank.

Most of the Reserve Bank investigations are also concerned with over-invoicing.

According to deputy Reserve Bank Governor Dr Jan Lombard, cases being investigated by his team run into "double-digit" figures, but not more than 50.

The special Reserve Bank team was established in December under Dr Lombard's direction to investigate forex frauds and other problems relating to the use of the financial rand.

This was done after the Harms Commission disclosed that Pretoria attorney Mr Albert Vermaas allegedly moved at least R100-million in foreign exchange last year.

Mr Dave Dalling, PFP spokesman on justice, said today the commission seemed to be "opening a can of worms which stretched right into the highest circles of government".

Evidence about involvement of Cabinet Ministers in the affairs of Mr Vermaas "provided ample grounds for questions to be tabled in Parliament".

He said he would be doing this as soon as Parliament opened on February 3.

Meanwhile, Mr Harry Schwarz, PFP finance spokesman, has called for a full inquiry into Harms Commission evidence that Mr Vermaas's tax returns for three years lay unattended in the Receiver of Revenue's office.

Mr Schwarz said that he did not think this was the usual practice.

"Most people's tax files are dealt with very expeditiously."

*See page 4*
Vermaas wanted official to speed up aircraft deals
Barend feared R150m ‘scam’

PRETORIA. — An offer from a mysterious “foreign purchaser” to buy Chieftain Aviation’s shares for R155 million was “not worth the paper it’s written on”, the Harms Commission’s chief professional officer, advocate Mr Frank Kahn, remarked during yesterday’s hearing here.

Creditors have pinned their hopes on this deal, in the belief that it could fund their reimbursement.

Mr Kahn said the Chieftain aircraft had been valued at as little as R10 million, and questioned the mystery buyer’s “Santa Claus attitude”. — Sapa

PRETORIA. — A senior Reserve Bank official told the Harms Commission yesterday that the Minister of Finance, Mr Barend du Plessis, asked him to see millionaire entrepreneur Mr Albert Vermaas because Mr Du Plessis “did not want the State President embarrassed”.

Dr J van Greunen, of the Reserve Bank, said Mr P W Botha was to have met leaders from the independent black states on Monday November 27 last year, and Mr Du Plessis had asked him to see Mr Vermaas at Mr Vermaas’s home on Sunday, the day before Mr Botha’s meeting.

Dr Van Greunen said he believed Mr Du Plessis’s discomfort stemmed from the fact that it appeared that Mr Vermaas’s Ciskei-registered companies would be “dragged into an open commission hearing”, and that it might involve “a R150-million scam”.

Dr Van Greunen said Mr Du Plessis had telephoned him, saying he “had Mr Vermaas in his office”.

Mr Du Plessis asked him to see Mr Vermaas but “did not ask me to do anything”.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr Pik Botha, who along with the Minister of Defence, Gen Magnus Malan, had travelled in Mr Vermaas’s aircraft, had earlier referred Mr Vermaas to Mr Du Plessis.

Mr Du Plessis mentioned to Dr Van Greunen Mr Botha’s coming meeting with the independent states’ leaders, and asked Dr Van Greunen to see Mr Vermaas on Sunday because he did not want the president embarrassed, Dr Van Greunen said.

He had gone to Mr Vermaas’s home accompanied by Reserve Bank colleagues because he had decided it would be better to have someone with him.

Mr Vermaas told them that he thought of selling the aircraft to cover a R150 million shortfall in his companies, and he thought the bankers could “influence” and “expedite” the Reserve Bank’s forex control decision.

“We said we do not try to influence exchange control decisions, not even for personal friends,” said Dr Van Greunen. — Sapa
Van der Merwe: facts must be made known to prevent repeat

WHERE offenders — particularly if they are psychopaths — have inflicted serious harm on people the courts have a duty to protect the public.

The kinds and degrees of criminal harm inflicted by the rapist William van der Merwe initially justified custody and once he became a recidivist it's reported (Cape Times, January 10) that 17 years ago Mr Justice Irving Steyn sentenced him to death. On appeal (in 1972) this sentence was replaced by 20 years' imprisonment, alias not determinate.

After 15 years a criminal whose offences horrified the learned judge was set free — in spite of a criminal record which included five counts of rape and three of attempted rape. By any civilised standard, the "screwworm-driver sex maniac" was both a menace and a danger to society when he was only 20. His criminal conduct was a particular threat to women and children— one of his victims was only 14 when raped.

Judge Steyn says that "in this case the death sentence should have been carried out". We're told that Van der Merwe did not have a lcnectomy (one basis for appeal), but he was given aversion or hormone therapy to reduce his psychopathic sex drive — while he was in custody.

The public may never know how many victims Van der Merwe attacked. This is a most under-reported crime, but the repercussions of his latest attack are appalling — one young woman raped and killed leaving a young child without a mother's care, one young woman raped and not just left with the trauma and distress of that horrendous event, but also with the fact that she killed someone, albeit in self-defence. It may scar her for the rest of her life.

At 19 she will need psychiatric counselling and she may, with justification, develop an inherent loathing of men. She may remain frigid, or worse, she may become pregnant or develop a venereal disease as a result of the rape.

Surely, in law, both she and the dependants of the dead woman are entitled to reparation? They were innocent victims of a gross error of judgment by those responsible for the release of a dangerous, manic, recidivist criminal. His victims now deserve redress for injury and distress, and for Miss Lennon's child, adequate compensation to ensure his care and education.

On any "prediction scale", given his previous appalling criminal record Van der Merwe represented a high risk recidivist — surely the public are entitled to know on what basis his early release was granted.

Furthermore, how strict was his supervision and how was he convicted criminal permitted to have a firearm while on parole?

Whilst I personally am not a reticentist for capital punishment, it is countrywide, where hangings for certain offences is both statutory and practised regularly, in all justice one has to question the thinking behind the successful appeal against Van der Merwe's death sentence in 1972.

One questions how the law would have been applied had the convicted criminal been black or coloured?

Would women judges have allowed Van der Merwe's reduction in penalty for what is not only a heinous crime but one which women dread and fear?

The incapacitation of certain offenders can be guaranteed by either capital punishment or by long periods of incarceration. Some sexual offenders can be prevented from re-offending if they are surgically or chemically castrated — this is done in some countries if the offender (deviant) consents.

Where and when offenders are dangerous, the only protection to the public, apart from capital punishment, is that they be kept securely out of circulation for substantial periods.

The tragic consequences of Van der Merwe's release leads one to conclude that the only way to avoid mistaken early parole of dangerous offenders is to detain them for the rest of their lives, either in prison or in secure psychiatric hospitals.

In conclusion, I would argue that a committee of inquiry should be set up to study all the facts relating to Van der Merwe's release which was so patently ill-advised in view of his previous criminal record and psychopathic nature.

It is an established fact that part of the definition of a psychopath is that they commit acts of violence without motive and without subsequent remorse and they constitute a grave threat to society. For this reason most convicted psychopaths in the UK are committed to Broadmoor where they are sectioned to an indeterminate stay.

If Van der Merwe's victims of their dependants could prove that his release by the prison authorities was "neglectful of public safety", would they be entitled to compensation under South African law?

Public exposure of the facts surrounding his untimely release from custody may go some way towards ensuring that any such miscarriage will not be repeated.
Hadj chaos: Call for probe

JOHANNESBURG.
— Muslims travelling to and from sacred Islamic places in Saudi Arabia have complained angrily about scores of people being ripped off, or at least being treated shoddily by some tour operators.

Hundreds of South African Muslims have travelled by air from Johannesburg to Jeddah for Umrah in the past few weeks.

And with hundreds more making preparations for the annual Hajj pilgrimage later this year, calls have been made for the increasing chaos to be prevented.

Muslim organisations contacted for comment agreed that some action would have to be taken, and it is likely that they will seek a meeting with tour operators.

Last month, a group of travellers from the Transvaal and Natal were told at the last minute that their plane had not been chartered.

Allegations were made that tour operators had sold tickets twice for the same flight.

Those left behind had to wait a few days while arrangements were made to charter another plane.

Among them were several workers who had saved for the trip and had taken unpaid leave.

Earlier this month, some people returning home from Umrah were stranded for more than three days in transit at Nairobi airport after, it is claimed, their reservations had not been confirmed by their tour agents.

One traveller said: "We were told at the airport that there were no bookings for us on Joburg-bound flights.

"Some passengers had to buy additional tickets while a few were lucky enough to get seats on flights coming to Johannesburg."

A Lenasia travel agent, Mr Mohamed "Boetis" Moolia, said there were no problems with any of his flights.

"Passengers were sent from Jeddah to Nairobi where they were told that there were no bookings. They were put on flights only where seats were available."

Moolia felt it was not the fault of the airlines, but of the agents.

"Agents must make sure that there are chartered flights," he said.

He suggested that affected passengers seek compensation from the agents.

Travellers forced to go to Nairobi for connecting flights have long complained about the treatment they received at the airport.

"We are victims of apartheid. Why do the Kenyans treat us as if we represent the apartheid government?" asked a traveller.

"Perhaps our political or religious organisations, through the UN the OAU or Islamic countries, should make representations to the Kenyan government to grant us temporary visas."

While reputable registered travel agents have continued to provide an acceptable service, questions have arisen about "fly-by-night" operators who surface only during the Hajj and Umrah seasons.

One veteran travel agent, who did not want to be named, said the "fly-by-nights" had little experience of travel requirements.

"They are often not to make a quick fortune. They promise travellers that a guide will go with them. When the people arrive in Saudi Arabia, there is no agent — and they have to go around trying to find accommodation and take care of documentation which should have been seen to by the agent."

Moolia agreed. "There are too many fly-by-night agents. There should be a body to warn people of the problem and to be able to control the situation."

Dr Mohammed Momoniat of the Nur-ul-Islam Centre in Lenasia said he had heard of travellers' complaints, and agreed that there was a great need for coordination.

He felt a meeting of Islamic groups and tour operators to thrash out the issue would be a good idea.

Mr Mohammed Mayot of the Central Islamic Trust said: "It is unpardonable that such an obvious error could have been committed over plane bookings."

"There is sometimes more motive for material gain on the part of those responsible. They don't care if people get stranded."

"The Muslim community should stand up and demand our rights. We do not want to put anyone out of business but we should not get a shoddy deal at the same time," he said.

— The Indicator
WHAT A SCANDAL

Nats in dog box over corruption

by FRANS ESTERHUYSE
Weekend Argus Political Staff

THE multi-million rand fraud scandals rocking the country and the forced resignation of politicians have suddenly turned corruption into the major political issue of the day.

It threatens to turn the coming parliamentary session into a gruelling one for the government, particularly with an election ahead.

Amid concern and uncertainty over the political future of President Botha, the ruling party has been badly shaken by the sudden resignation of senior Cabinet Minister Mr Pietie du Plessis and the circumstances in which two other Nationalist MPs, Mr Peet de Pontes and Mr Leon de Beer, have been forced to relinquish their seats.

The opposition parties have already given notice that they intend taking the government to task on these issues. And increasingly it appears that cases and allegations of corruption could also have a strong bearing on the succession stakes, should President Botha decide to step down.

Hard-hitting

In a hard-hitting statement, the Democratic Federal Party federal executive said:

"We seriously doubt whether the National Party is capable of rooting out corruption, since corruption thrives on the arrogance resulting from a government that has been in power for too long and on the secrecy in which the government habitually conducts its business." The government's own concerns are starkly reflected in statements by Information Minister Dr Stoffel van der Merwe who told newspapers: "Not only are we upset and embarrassed over what has been happening, but we are also disappointed."

He pledged the government's determination to root out corruption and revealed that President Botha had, before he was taken ill, approved extensions to the Advocate-General's powers.

However, legislation to that effect could run into serious trouble, as the opposition parties believe it would cast a veil of secrecy over official inquiries into corruption.

"Bought back"

Estimates have been that Mr Du Plessis, former Minister of Manpower, would receive a gratuity of about R250 000 and an annual pension of about R120 000. Mr de Pontes, who is resigning as MP for East London City, will receive a gratuity of R36 000 and a pension of R24 400.

However, depending on whether he "bought-back" years of service as an MP, Mr de Pontes could be receiving a much larger gratuity and pension based on an MP's current salary package of about R175 000 which went up by 15 percent with the public service January pay increase.

Mr de Pontes' gratuity could be closer to R100 000 and his pension close to R50 000.

Asking for details of their handouts as well as the payments to others who left public life under a cloud, a spokesman for the Department of National Health which administers pensions, said: "Salaries and pensions of individuals are their private and confidential affairs. The department is not empowered to furnish details thereof to third parties."

Dr Marius Barnard, PFP spokesman on pensions, said: "If you're in public life, your salaries are public. I think pensions and gratuities should also be public. I can't see no reason why there should be secrecy."

He said he would definitely put millions to finance a life of luxury for the families of politicians who contribute to the government's growing sleaze factor.

But the government this week refused to disclose the size of the gratuities and pensions paid to a list of some of the best-known politicians and officials who left public life under a cloud. As a result, the PFP is to ask questions in Parliament to obtain details of the handouts.

This week's estimates on the handouts to the latest batch of prematurely retiring politicians could be well below what they will actually get.

"Bought back"
Row looms over corruption scandal

FROM PAGE 1

questions in Parliament asking for details of pensions and gratuities paid.

Before Mr Botha assumed power in 1978 promising clean administration, the government had its share of scandals, culminating in the Info affair. But the last few years have seen as many Ministers and deputies end their membership of Mr Botha's Cabinet under a cloud as did so before his time. They include:

■ Mr Fanie Botha who was highly-regarded as Minister of Manpower but whose personal financial affairs and dealings involving mineral rights allegedly made him vulnerable to extortion. He resigned from the Cabinet in 1983.

■ Henkie van der Walt who resigned as Deputy Minister of Development and Land Affairs in 1983. He was jailed for five years early last year after pleading guilty to 15 counts of theft involving R800 000 in his capacity as an attorney and businessman.

■ Mr Louis Nel who resigned suddenly as Deputy Minister of Information in 1987 after it was reported that he had made a bid on behalf of Japanese merchant bankers who wanted to buy prime land in Tokyo owned by the South African Department of Foreign Affairs. Mr Nel denied this had anything to do with his resignation and said he was resigning to devote more time to his "international business consultancy".

■ Mr Amichand Rajbansi, the only Indian yet to serve on the Cabinet, who was sacked by President Botha late last year after a preliminary report of the James Commission. Earlier in the year a select committee of the House of Delegates found that a donation of R15 000 to Mr Rajbansi's National People's Party was followed by successful building tenders. Mr Rajbansi denied this and he is trying to make a political comeback.

■ This week's resignation by Mr Du Plessis whose business dealings will be the subject of a report to Parliament by the Advocate-General, Mr Justice PJ van der Walt, in the next few weeks. There have been allegations that he used State personnel and assets to benefit companies owned by himself and his son, Johan.

Commenting on the spate of Cabinet members who left the Cabinet in unsavoury circumstances, Mr Peter Soal, PFP MP, said: "Cabinet ministers should be careful before they socialise with people of shady background. They must beware of the sleaze factor."

"After 40 years the Nats have lost touch with the people. They live behind their high electrified walls and black-windowed Mercedes and they feel the government is their personal fiefdom."

Mr Koos van der Merwe, Conservative Party spokesman, said it was notable that most of the scandals were exposed in investigations by people outside government.

Mob batters killer to death

Weekend Argus Correspondent

DURBAN. — A gunman who went berserk in a busy Pinetown street, gunning down two people, was battered to death by a mob.

The gunman, whose identity has not been established, shot dead two men with a shotgun in Hill Street, not far from the busy business district and a taxi rank.

As the man was fleeing, the mob chased and caught him and he was killed.

It is not known what the motive was for the shooting.

The names of the dead men are being withheld until the next of kin have been informed.
Judge to meet Du Plessis today

By TOS WENTZEL
Political Correspondent

The Advocate-General, Mr Justice P J van der Walt, will see Mr Pietie du Plessis, former Minister of Manpower and Public Works, in Pretoria today.

It is understood that he also saw Mr du Plessis last month.

Mr van der Walt has said his report on an investigation into the Du Plessis companies could be tabled in Parliament within six weeks.

Mr du Plessis, meanwhile, has broken his silence to say he resigned because of "the controversy surrounding his personal life", reports Sapa.

He said he had taken the decision in the interest of the government and the National Party.

The statement did not say from when the resignation would take effect.

He thanked the acting-President, Mr Chris Heunis, and his colleagues in the Cabinet for their friendship and understanding.

CONTROVERSY

He said it was a privilege to have served the community of Lydenburg for almost 23 years.

Mr du Plessis also thanked the President Botha, for the honour of serving on the Cabinet under his guidance.

Apart from mentioning the "developing controversy surrounding my person and personal circumstances," Mr du Plessis gave no further indication as to why he had resigned.

Controversy has been raging for days now whether Mr du Plessis, who announced his resignation from the Cabinet on Tuesday, would resign his parliamentary seat as well.

Mr du Plessis is the third MP to have resigned in recent days.

The Nationalist MP for East London Central, Mr Peet de Pontes, resigned this week following disclosures by the Thams Commission of inquiry into cross-border irregularities.

The MP for Hillbrow, Mr Leon de Beer, who resigned from the NP after he was convicted of election fraud, this week resigned his parliamentary seat he was to continue to hold as an independent.
Future probes to be held in secret?

JOHANNESBURG. — A cloak of secrecy may be thrown over future official “corruption and abuse of power” inquiries if the government proceeds with reported plans to expand the powers and functions of the advocate-general.

Inquiries by the AG are at present usually conducted behind closed doors, with his reports tabled later in Parliament. If he were to take over investigations such as those by the Harms Commission and James Commission, all evidence would be withheld from the public until his reports were tabled.

The government is considering increasing the powers and functions of the AG, reasoning that it would help him cope with the rash of corruption sweeping the country.

The advocate-general, Mr Justice P.J. van der Walt, has also suggested an increase in his powers. Nationalist newspapers reported yesterday, however, that there was apparently a difference of opinion at government level over expanding the AG’s powers and that no final decision had yet been taken.

Legislation may be introduced this session to implement these intentions.

'Dirt under the carpet'

However, opposition politicians warned that the widening of the AG’s powers should not be an excuse for “sweeping the dirt under the carpet”.

Any attempt to keep inquiries into corruption secret or to hobble media investigations would be strongly opposed, said Mr. Dave Dalling, Progressive Federal Party spokesman on Justice.

“Investigating corruption should properly be done by the Department of Justice and the AG, but the history of the info scandals and other government improprieties showed the AG’s office to be singularly inept, especially where senior government members were concerned.”

The AG’s reports up to now had been “disappointing” and had dealt largely only with petty matters. “His report on the Department of Education and Training was so wishy-washy that a further inquiry had to be launched later to do a proper job,” he said.

Government sources have indicated that one of the reasons for expanding the AG’s powers would be to avoid judicial inquiries such as the current Harms Commission, where public allegations are made against senior government members.

This is known to have embarrassed several top government members, including cabinet ministers.

— Sapa
Du Plessis to be quizzed on gems firm

The Argus Correspondent
JOHANNESBURG. — The Pietie du Plessis debate raged on at the weekend with the embattled Minister the subject of severe scrutiny by Sunday newspapers.

The Sunday Times said a mysterious new factor, diamond deals, had emerged in the inquiry into Mr du Plessis's affairs.

Quoting sources, the newspaper said the former Minister of Manpower would be questioned today by the Advocate-General about the operations of a gems company, Quinto Diamonds, with which his family was allegedly associated.

Mr du Plessis's resignation is almost certainly linked to an impending official report into the Du Plessis group of companies.

The Advocate-General, Mr Justice P J van der Walt, has confirmed that an investigation into facets of the companies will be completed in six weeks.

Mr du Plessis has already been interviewed by Mr van der Walt.

Property deal
Rapport announced on its front page that it could now disclose the background which could be the key to the Minister's shock resignation as Minister and MP for Lydenburg last week — his son had bought a Pretoria building knowing it would be let to his father's Department of Public Works.

In response the former Minister said he had taken note of Rapport's allegations "with indignation". The newspaper's claims were based on rumours, untruths and distortions, he claimed.

"Rapport has once again not contacted either myself or my son to obtain an explanation, clarification or comment. This is not only unreasonable but unethical journalism," Mr du Plessis said.

"I am subsequently of the opinion that Rapport behaves improperly in that they broke the sub-judice law by, among others, attempting to pre-empt the investigation by the Advocate-General."

He added that he had referred the matter to his attorneys.

Rapport devoted much of yesterday's edition to the Du Plessis affair, under headlines like "A tale of intrigue" and "Shocking allegations of violence and assaults".

• Sapa reports that according to company minutes Du Plessis Investments used the name of an employee, an unhabituated insolvent, to establish Quinto Diamonds.

The minutes record that staff were told that "for the record" Quinto Diamonds belonged to "Theuns" and not Du Plessis Investments.

A Mr Theuns van Schalkwyk was employed by the company until last year.
Judge's report on Pietie du Plessis business ready

The Argus Correspondent
PRETORIA. — The Advocate-General, Mr Justice P J van der Walt, has completed his report on the business transactions in which the former Minister of Manpower, Mr Pietie du Plessis, and his son Johan were allegedly involved.

Mr Justice van der Walt said last night the report would be tabled in Parliament.

His statement followed a day-long meeting with the former minister as claims of Mr du Plessis's involvement in dealings continued to grow.

Mr du Plessis resigned as Minister of Manpower last week in the wake of several allegations concerning him and his son Johan's business dealings.

Earlier yesterday Mr Justice van der Walt said Mr du Plessis did not need his permission to hold a Press conference.

Mr du Plessis was not available for comment.
Pietie report 'OK for public airing'

OWN CORRESPONDENT

JOHANNESBURG. - Advocate general
Mr Justice Piet van der Walt will not rec-
commend that any sections of his report
on a Pretoria office block sale involving
former manpower minister Mr Pietie du
Plessis be withheld from the public.
Mr Justice Van der Walt said yesterday
that he had completed his investigation
into the affair after quizzing Mr Du Plessis
and his son Johan, who bought the build-
ing in 1987 while allegedly knowing it
would be rented to his father's depart-
ment.

Mr Justice Van der Walt also questioned
Mr Du Plessis sur last week, two days after
he resigned from the cabinet.

Mr Justice Van der Walt's report is ex-
pected to be submitted to Parliament in a
few weeks.

The AG's office came under the spotlight
recently after official confirmation that
consideration was being given to revising
the AG's powers and speculation that his
investigations might be kept secret.
**Corruption clampdown**

The Reserve Bank last night clamped down on foreign exchange dealings following the exposure by the Harms Commission of fraud of more than R100 million.

A statement by the governor of the Reserve Bank, Dr Gerhard de Kock, came as opposition parties in Parliament yesterday launched a blistering attack on the government's handling of corruption scandals in recent months.

Dr de Kock announced a tightening up of exchange control and supervisory of bonds dealing in foreign exchange.

Staff in the banking supervisory and exchange control departments will be expanded and their activities more closely co-ordinated under the overall control of Dr A S Jacobs, senior deputy governor of the bank.

**Nats attacked**

Deputy prime minister Dr Ian Lamont, who previously reported to Dr de Kock, will now report to Dr Jacobs.

**Once bitten...**

Picture: Jim Freeman

This deadly Gaboon viper bit Strandfontein snake park director Mr Bryan Vorster on Sunday and Mr Vorster lived to tell the tale.

Usually a Gaboon viper's bite means death, but Mr Vorster was lucky because the snake failed to inject any venom when it bit him on the finger.

Mr Vorster was bitten when he was showing one of the snakes to a friend on Sunday night.

No venom was injected because the Gaboon viper has the longest fangs of any poisonous snake, with the venom ducts sited a few millimetres higher than the points, Mr Vorster said. The venom had spurted past the wound.

RIGHT: The twin puncture marks of the viper's bite are clearly visible on Mr Vorster's middle finger.

Another reason for the surge in incidents of corruption was the Nats' decision to round up the activities of government.

Dr de Beer said corruption was also being fuelled by the compensation and arrogance that tend to develop among human beings who have had power and privilege for too long.

The leader of the National Democratic Movement, Mr Wynand Malan, said members of the cabinet and MPs should think carefully about the people from whom they received hunting invitations and about the conduct of transactions between these people and the state and state-related organisations.

Whether it was a Kurner who paid R2 million or a Vereeniging man who was given an Armco directorship without any legal clearance, it smells bad, he said.

Responding to Opposition charges on corruption, the party's MP for Pretoria North, Mr Danie Schout, said the government's recent actions were a clear indication that it was committed to clean administration.

While no government could guarantee the complete absence of corruption, the real test was whether a government had created the machinery to expose it.

Mr Schout said proof of the government's sincerity about maintaining clean administration could be found in the very existence of the advocate general, as well as the work of the Harms and James commissi...
Mauritius 'link' in Vermaas scam

The Argus Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG. — Evidence of further personal links between the Minister of Defence, General Magnus Malan, and Pretoria millionaire, Mr Albert Vermaas, who is at the centre of an alleged R150-million scam, has emerged.

General Malan flew to Mauritius on a fishing trip in October last year on an aircraft owned by Mr Vermaas's Chieftain Airlines.

General Malan said the plane was paid for by a group of 10 people, including himself, who undertook the visit. The aircraft was chartered by a person responsible for the travel arrangements and was not hired free of charge.

Chieftain Airlines, wholly owned by Mr Vermaas and set up at a cost of R70-million, has been contracted in the past by the Defence Force to carry out official missions on its behalf.

Though Mr Vermaas did not accompany General Malan and his party or fly with them, they met "incidentally" during the four-day fishing trip, said General Malan.

Asked if he spent time on a yacht or fishing vessel in Mauritius — said to be part-owned by Mr Vermaas — General Malan answered by saying his group paid for its own hotel accommodation.

**Questioned**

General Malan's links with Mr Vermaas, and those of other cabinet ministers, are to be questioned by opposition MPs in Parliament.

Some claim this could be the reason why General Malan, tipped previously as a strong candidate for the presidency, was not nominated as a candidate for the national leadership of the NP.

Political observers, including the Nationalist Press, expressed surprise that the Minister of Defence was not among the four candidates whose names were put forward as State President P W Botha's successor.

The Mauritian fishing expedition took place shortly after Mr Vermaas hosted General Malan as his guest on a hunting trip on his game farm in Namibia.

Both trips took place at a time when Mr Vermaas's security clearance — necessary to confirm his appointment as a director of an Armcor subsidiary — was under review by military intelligence, which falls directly under General Malan's command.

In November last year — one month after the Mauritius trip and some five months after the Namibian visit — General Malan told Mr Vermaas his security clearance had not been granted.

"Whom I meet informally, and when, is something I regard as a private matter," said General Malan.
R2-m payoff: Sequel in SA unlikely

By TOS WENTZEL
Political Correspondent

The Herman Commission of Inquiry into alleged cross-border irregularities has recommended that no prosecution should be instituted in South Africa in respect of bribery or corruption, in connection with Transkei gambling rights.

The second report of the same commission was issued yesterday.

It did not recommend that the involvement of Mr Sol Kerzner or Mr David Bloomberg be referred to the South African Attorney-General for a possible prosecution of bribery or corruption.

Whether their payment in South Africa would amount to a crime in Transkei was not a matter for the commission to consider.

It also recommended that:
- The Law Society consider the actions of Mr Bloomberg and take whatever steps it considered appropriate.
- The question whether prosecution or corruption was committed in terms of the law of Transkei be left to the Transkei Attorney-General.
- The matter flowing from a prospectus for Transnet, which could not be treated as covered by any available statement, be referred back to the Transkei government, pending a decision as to the appropriate action to be taken.
- The report pointed out that the bribing of a foreign official was not a crime in South Africa.

LITTLE CONSEQUENCE

This legal conclusion, it said, made the identity of the bribers of little consequence in terms of South African law.

The utility of the allocation of the gambling rights was not affected by the identity of the briber.

Regarding the activities of Mr J Trickey, who tried to market a plan for an hotel and casino in Umtata, the report said it did not appear as if he had committed an identifiable misconduct in South Africa.

The report pointed out that the affidavit presented to the inquiry Commission were in accord with the evidence given before the Alexander Commission.

The report said the Transnet prospect, issued in January last year, contained some false statements.

It said Transnet held the exclusive gambling rights for the area within a 15 km radius of Umtata, including Butterworth.

The R1.4-million payable in cash and ordinary shares in Transnet, represented a consideration paid in respect of goodwill.

The vendors, it maintained, were the Establishment Sports Ltd and 5s (ESL), which would receive R1.670 000 in ordinary shares in Transnet and R1.4 O50 in cash.

In brief

The government would not be able to re-examine its treaty obligations in the light of recent developments.

Mr Godfrey Le Roux (LP Southern Free State) said that for as long as blacks were excluded the LP would consider the constitution as "cruel". And for as long as war continued, South Africa would be considered the speck of the world.

The Administration of the House of Delegates had been responsible for the grants totalling about 30 coloured families in Cato Manor near Durban, said Mr Joe Hadebe (UDP Park).

The Minister of Local Government and Administration in the House of Delegates, Mr S V Nkabinde, appealed to Western industrialised countries not to apply sanctions against South Africa.

The time had come for the activities of the Anti-Apartheid Movement to take place in public, said Mr Casper Uys (CP, Barberton).

(Reports by Saps.)

MP insulted Zulu king — Dalling

Parliamentary Staff

NATIONALIST MP for Presidentt, CQoN S Bloomberg, was accused of "outrageous conduct" by Zulu King Goodwill Zwelithini at a municipal banquet in Johannesburg this week.

His conduct, said Mr David Dalling (NFP), was a reflection of the "low political standards" of the NP.

Mr Dalling said that in November last year the King had a formal banquet in his honour in Johannesburg.

"At one of the tables there was an interesting combination of guests," he said. "One, probably the most important, was a white man, who, I believe, was a deputy for the constituency of Bepalazulu (Colonel S Bloomberg).

"We now realise what a massive amount of reconstructing awaits the new leader of the NP."
Probe into R210 000 'illicit' DET spending

Johannesburg. — Department of Education and Training (DET) officials were alleged to have spent amounts totalling R210 000 since 1985 without authorisation and in disregard of departmental procedures, the Van den Heever inquiry heard yesterday.

The inquiry, chaired by Miss Justice Yán den Heever, has heard evidence in Pretoria in the past two days of at least 23 cases of alleged irregular spending.

The largest single amount, R30 194, was approved by the assistant director: administration of the DET Northern Transvaal region, Mr Hendrik de Beer, without authorisation and without following any of the departmental procedures, the commission heard yesterday.

He had also approved further amounts of R28 789 and R26 880 in the same manner during 1986-87.

In none of the three cases were orders put out for the required three tenders.
HOTEL magnate Mr Sol Keverner yesterday resigned his directorships in three major South African companies.

He quit as chairman of Sun International, deputy chairman of Karonel and as a director of Safcor.

Mr Keverner came under fire in media and business circles in mid-January after he said Cape Town attorney Mr David Bloomberg connected to the Harms Commission that they paid R2 million to former Transkei prime minister Chief George Matanzima to secure exclusive gambling rights in Transkei.

Sapa reports that Mr Keverner said in a statement that the board had accepted Mr Keverner's resignation realizing that "he had come to the decision in what he regards as the best interests of the companies concerned". Mr Keverner gave no reasons for the resignation.

It was understood the resignations were made at an extraordinary board meeting in Johannesburg which had been planned "for about a week", sources said. The source said Mr Keverner had been "under absolutely no pressure" to resign.

‘Confidence and support’

Mr Keverner made his admission of the bribe in camera to the commission in November last year, but the information was only made public in January because "the decision was taken by the commission of the effect of the information on share prices."

When the acknowledgement of the bribe was made public, the board of the three companies said: "After being fully informed of all the relevant matters of the Harms and Alexander commissions we have unanimously resolved that Mr Keverner will continue to enjoy our confidence and support."

"Safcor said last night: "The board's decision of support was based on the significant contribution that Mr Keverner made, not only to the companies concerned, but to the economics of Southern Africa as a whole."

This report is no way condones the "unfortunate events which emerged at the Harms Commission of which we were previously unaware."

In a report released on Tuesday, Mr Justice Louis Harms recommended that neither Mr Keverner nor Mr Bloomberg be prosecuted for bribery or corruption in South Africa. He said, however, that the commission's report contained three false statements and referred to that the Transkei government.

Speculation last night was that Mr Keverner would make his permanent base in London to oversee his foreign operations.

Mr Tony Norton, president of the Johannesburg Stock Exchange, said the commission's report made statements made in the prospectus of Transkei fell "under the jurisdiction of the government."

The commission found that three statements made in the prospectus of Transkei were false.

That Transkei held exclusive gambling rights within a radius of 18km around Umtata.

That R250,000 of the cash and ordinary shares of Transkei had been "paid in respect of goodwill". The amount was in fact a bribe, the commission found.

That R12,000 of the amount was to go to a company called ESL for shares in Transkei. Mr Norton was mainly interested in the house for Mr Matanzima.

The commission said that the Alexander Commission had not established whether the company ESL (Established Sports and Leisures) was a genuine foreign concern or "nothing but a vehicle to conceal the personal interest of the Bloombergs."

300 now on hunge

ALMOST 300 emaciated detainees are now believed to be on hunger strike in two major prisons, saying they will starve themselves to death if necessity.

But Mr Adrian Viljoen, Minister of Law and Order, said last night that the state could not allow itself to be threatened by such protest.

He was replying to an invitation to meet lawyers and their hunger-striking clients today at the Johannesberg Prison after 100 detainees at St Alban's prison in Port Elizabeth issued a letter saying they were joining the hunger strike started by 20 Johannesberg prisoners 10 days ago.

Mr Viljoen's reply came amid reports that at least seven of the group which initiated the protest had been taken to Hillbrow Hospital.

On Tuesday, 156 black prisoners in Johannesburg had published an open letter to the government saying they were refusing food. They joined 20 prisoners who started fasting more than a week ago.

The latest groups of tickers in Johannesberg and St Alban's prisons began refusing food on Monday.

Some of the prisoners have allegedly been held for up to 26 months under emergency detention.

Heunis made to wear Hani's hat

Political Staff

THIS acting State President, Mr Chris Heunis, is a popular member of the ANC particularly among the radical youth, because he is opposed to the "politics of compromise."

That is, according to the leading French-language Africa magazine Jeune Afrique.

In a classic mismatch, Jeune Afrique mixed up Mr Chris Heunis, the Cape leader of the National Party, and a key figure in the government's strategy of negotiations and compromise, with Mr Chris Hani, the deputy leader of the ANC's armed wing, Umkhonto we Sizwe.

Yesterday, Mr Heunis merely laughed when shown the Jeune Afrique boek.

Boy hurts arm in tumble drier

DURBAN. - A 17-year-old boy badly hurt an arm when it became entangled in a tumble dryer.

Nico Blaatj was admitted to hospital for surgery on Monday night, with severe open fractures. A spokesman said Nico, who spent five hours in theatre, was still "quite ill and shocked."

He said that from what he understood, Nico had tried to put his hand in the drier. - Saps
Vermaas planes for sale, Harms Commission told

Mr Beene recommended that an American business associate of Mr Vermaas, Mr Chuck Rittenberry, be restrained from disposing of assets derived from Mr Vermaas's South African company, Chieftain Aviation Holdings.

Speaking from Pretoria today, liquidator Mr Wally Edelstein said he consulted senior counsel last night "in view of what transpired".

"I will be filing affidavits in the Verco Holdings (Mr Vermaas's holding company) matter in the Supreme Court first thing this morning."

"We have set other stops in motion — I can't tell you at the moment — in order to protect the aircraft in the United States. What I am told will depend on what action I and my co-liquidators take in connection with Chieftain and the aircraft," Mr Edelstein said.

At yesterday's unscheduled sitting, the commission also heard that corporate stock of the American-based company Deutsch Aviation Incorporated had been transferred to the estate of a dead German.

"The books and records of Deutsch are being prepared to be shipped to Germany where it is presumed that those records will be destroyed," Mr Beene said in the letter.

In the light of this information Mr Beene recommended that the Deutsch company and Mr Rittenberry be restrained from disposing of the assets derived from Chieftain.

Mr Beene said he had learnt of these dealings when a client, who wanted his name withheld, was searching the market to buy planes.

"It was also learnt that prior to the Chieftain matter, Mr Rittenberry was without funds and now has a surplus of funds, presumably being monies derived from Chieftain," Mr Beene continued.

In other documents handed in to the commission Mr Vermaas's last tax payment was shown to be R3 641, although he owes the Receiver of Revenue more than R44-million in tax.

Originally, in 1987, Mr Vermaas's tax assessment showed a R87 936 loss of income but a reassessment showed his taxable income for 1987 to be R12.7-million.
Taxiing R44M

Vermaas Oves
PRETORIA attorney and businessman Mr Albert Vermaas, whose business activities are the focus of a Harms Commission corruption inquiry, owes the Receiver of Revenue R44.4 million.

This came to light during an extraordinary session of the commission held in Cape Town yesterday.

Among other sensational revelations heard by the commission were that:

- A United States agent for Mr Vermaas has been attempting to secretly sell off to a Latin American country at least two aircraft belonging to the Vermaas-owned company Chieftain Air.
- The books of an American-based company owned by Mr Vermaas were being transferred to Germany "where it is presumed that those records will be destroyed".
- Mr Vermaas' 1987 tax assessment showed a credit of R87 866, but a reassessment done in this year showed a taxable income of R12.7 million for the year — with a balance of R6 029 934 owed to the Receiver.

Planes to buy

In a letter to the provisional liquidators, the Receiver said that in addition R19.3 million was due for 1986 from Mr Vermaas' taxable income of nearly R43 million and R19.2 million provisionally due for 1989.

Yesterday's sitting was summoned to have a letter from Houston attorney Mr Roy Beene read into the record. Mr Beene said a client of his who was looking for planes to buy had discovered that Deutsch, a Vermaas company based in American-owned Californian-based De Havilland DH-4 aircraft bought with funds obtained from Chieftain.

It was learnt the assets purchased with funds from Chieftain were in the process of being sold — at least two of the DH-4s were on sale to Latin American buyers.

Mr Beene also said the corporate stock of Deutsch had been transferred to the estate of a deceased German citizen.

"The books and records of Deutsch are being prepared to be shipped to Germany where it is presumed that those records will be destroyed.

"My client learned this information through a conversation with an employee of Deutsch who was unaware of the sale of the Deutsch assets by Mr Rittenberry (described as the primary individual in charge
Probe hears of unauthorised DET spending

Own Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG. — The Van den Heever inquiry was told yesterday that Department of Education and Training (DET) officials had allegedly spent a further R500 000 without following correct procedures.

The inquiry since Monday has heard evidence that a total of R1 million was allegedly spent without authorisation or in disregard of DET procedures.

Of the R800 000, Mr Thinus Strydom, son of DET deputy director-general Mr Jaap Strydom, was paid R520 000 by the DET in February and March 1987 for posters his companies had produced, senior procurement official Mr Wynand Coetzee testified yesterday.

DET procedures had not been followed and no authorization had been obtained from the tender board.

The printing should have been done by the state printers because of the size of the order, Mr Coetzee said.

Inquiry advocate Mr Nollie Niehaus will call further DET officials to testify on posters bought from Mr Thinus Strydom.

The inquiry, chaired by Miss Justice Van den Heever, will continue to hear evidence on alleged irregularities in the DET during the next two weeks.
Inquiry into
govt's golden
handshakes

Political Staff

The cabinet, after weeks of controversy about dis
graced politicians still receiving their pensions and golden handshakes, has asked for a para
lementary inquiry into whether this should be stopped.

This surprise move was announced yesterday by the Minister of Transport, Mr Eil Louw, the government's last speaker in the four-day joint debate.
Voluntary exile for Kerzner?

OWN CORRESPONDENT

JOHANNESBURG — The board of Royale Resorts International (RRI), Kersa's offshore partnership, was still considering hotel magnate Mr. Sol Kerzner's offer of resignation. Kersa, managing director Mr. Ian Heron said yesterday.

Mr. Heron said Mr. Kerzner would be available for comment in London today on the outcome of his resignation offer.

He said Mr. Kerzner's resignation from the boards of Saferi, Kersa and Sun International would not create immediate problems.

Mr. Kerzner resigned his directorships this week, following the tabling in Parliament of the second Harms Commission report on cross-border irregularities.

Mr. Kerzner arrived in Britain from South Africa yesterday, a spokeswoman for Sun International said.

She said Mr. Kerzner had visited South Africa as part of a scheduled trip via Mauritius and had departed from Lanseria Airport as planned.

Meanwhile, it was speculated yesterday that Mr. Kerzner may enter voluntary exile from South Africa if Transkei decides to prosecute him and Cape Town attorney Mr. David Bloomfield for paying

Kerzner, former Transkeian prime minister Chief George Matanzima a R2m bribe.

"As far as the Southern Africa and Mauritius businesses are concerned, Mr. Kerzner had not been really involved for two years and we have built up our own management team which will now carry on," Mr. Heron said.

The chairman of Transkei's ruling military council, General Bantu Holomisa, said yesterday his government would ensure that Mr. Kerzner and Mr. Bloomfield were extradited to face criminal charges in Transkei.

He said Mr. Kerzner and Mr. Bloomfield should not believe they were too rich or important to be extradited.

The attorney-general of Transkei, Mr. Christo Nel, said he had called for, but had not yet received, the Harms report. He declined to comment when asked whether he had discussed the matter with General Holomisa.

Legal experts said yesterday that Transkei would have little difficulty starting extradition proceedings against Mr. Kerzner and Mr. Bloomfield, but that it was unlikely they would be delivered to Transkei if they were outside the republic.
The opposition in Parliament is so intent on condemning proposals and scoring points that it does not put forward any alternative proposal to debate, or to give the public something to discuss and think about. Thus the public loses interest. The opposition is equally responsible for spiralling prices.

It is just two weeks since the outrageous increase in petrol prices, and apart from a few mild protests from some institutions about it being inflationary, the public has already accepted it as a way of life.

The man in the street is happy, in a few months’ time salary increases will cover the cost, the government is happy, more taxes from higher salaries and extra GST from higher prices. Cheers to inflation, may its shadow never grow less, so why ask questions?

How do you get across to the man in the street that he is being impoverished?

J B M Ex-minister objects

I REFER to your article entitled “Stop the Corruption!” (The Argus, January 23).

I have no objection whatsoever when your newspaper finds it prudent to investigate any improper actions in government or National Party circles. I do, however, object to my name having been included in this article.

Your report, as it relates to me, is totally incorrect, unfair and also defamatory.

Firstly, I did not suddenly resign as Deputy Minister of Information in 1997. Fact is that I ceased to be a Deputy Minister already at the end of November, 1986. The so-called "Tokyo land deal" report was published on March 28, 1987. In other words, four months after I ceased to be a Deputy Minister. There is absolutely no connection between my leaving the position as Deputy Minister and the so-called “Tokyo report.” Your article in this regard is therefore without any factual basis whatsoever.

After leaving my position as Deputy Minister I at first decided to make myself available for the Parliamentary elections of 1987, but later and after the said report was published, decided not to do so any more. I said at that time and wish to repeat again that the so-called “Tokyo Report” had nothing to do with my decision not to stand for Parliament. At that time it became clear to me that I had to make a choice between a business or a political career. I chose a business career.

What was the so-called “Tokyo Report” all about? All I did was to act in my professional capacity in conveying an offer of a Hong Kong merchant banker to the South African government to purchase prime land in Tokyo. I was also asked to advise on certain complicated legal issues and the applicability of a new Japanese Act of Parliament which could severely have influenced the value of the property. That was all.

I surely did not in any way act unethically or incorrectly.

It is a generally accepted principle by all members of Parliament that a professional person could still exercise his profession whilst being a member of Parliament.

Your statement that I left my post as Deputy Minister under a cloud and other negative statements have no factual basis at all.

I therefore strongly object to your inaccurate, unfair and untruthful statements as published in your article.

D J LOUIS NEL

Pretoria

It is correct that Mr Nel left his Deputy Ministerial post in November 1986. He withdrew his parliamentary candidature in 1987. — Editor

Jews’ story vague

I REFER to an article in your edition of January 21, by Dr I Berelowitz on the Jews of District Six, and the role played by the Jewish community in that area over the years.

His story is very vague, as it mentions only his father’s business and that of Mr Benkinestad, both of whom I know very well. He has erred in mentioning nothing of Jews who worked and lived in that area, nor of its well-known personalities in business, industry, or other occupations, such as furniture manufacturers, doctors, dentists, cabinet makers, engineers, blacksmiths, school teachers, plumbers, pharmacists, etc.

I could name many, but let us look at some of these people. I will start with a former Mayor, Mr Abe Bloom, a gifted and talented lawyer and businessman, Mr Issac Ospovat also was a gifted businessman and industrialist, who was not only a tower of strength in the furniture trade, but who was a pivot of the industrial legislation of this industry and everything related to it. He later became the City Council’s top financial wizard.

All the large furniture manufacturers come to mind, SA Cabinet; Works in Sir Lowry Road; Mr Harris in St James Walk, sandwiched between Caledon and Longmarket Streets, Issacs Ospovat Duros factory in Chapel Street; later moved to Roe Road; Mr Shenker’s factory in Oak Street, off Sir Lowry Road. Mention I think can also be made of D Isaacs large factory, which although in a different District Six, was on the opposite side of its boundary, at the corner of Buitenkant and Barrack streets. This factory was established many years before the Boer War. I would also mention Mr Grodin, who had his office in Caledon Street and who became mayor, and Plywoods of Parow founded by Mr Berold.

There were other fine men’s and women’s outfitters in Hanover Street, and Caledon Street.

I must mention the De Villiers public school, run by Mr Kloof, the Jewish principal of that school, which closed (if my memory serves me correctly) in the early 1920s, and through whose hands hundreds of Jewish scholars passed. The building is still standing to this day. Many of those who passed through Mr Kloof’s hands furthered their education at SACS, and Normal College, the latter closing down in the early 1920s. Normal College became Cape Town Central up to Std 6, whose principal was a Mr Cohen, an old schoolmaster who ran his own school called Hopemill. From Buitenkant Street the school moved to Roeland Street in a new building opposite the goal, assuming the name of Hope Lodge. After a
Kerzner:
My deals were fair

Bloomberg 'very bitter'

By SYBRAND MOSTERT

MR David Bloomberg, the former mayor of Cape Town implicated with casino tycoon Mr Sol Kerzner in the Transkei corruption scandal, is “bitter” about the affair.

"He has been made the fall guy and is very bitter," a relative said.

"He was forced into the situation, and has never changed his evidence since the commission started. He has been made the whipping boy."

Mr Bloomberg, who has been overseas with his wife Toby since early December, will be returning to the city from London within two weeks.

Mr Kerzner, who has resigned three directorships since admitting to the Harms commission that he gave a R2m bribe to Chief George Matanzima for exclusive gambling rights, arrived in London on Thursday.

Blast hits Jo'burg army building

JOHANNESBURG. — A limpet mine exploded outside an army HQ in Braamfontein yesterday, slightly injuring 12 people.

The blast outside the Witwatersrand Command medical headquarters during lunch hour damaged a shop and broke windows in the area.

The seven-storey building — which is routinely patrolled by SADF troops and additionally protected with revolving exterior remote-controlled cameras — was the scene of this year’s first bomb blast in Johannesburg.

Police said the limpet mine was placed on a ledge of the building on the corner of Melle and Ameshoff streets. Damage to the building was minimal.
PW, Mafia, Vermaas on quiz list
January 12, 1987

The government is facing potentially explosive questions which attempt to expose links between President Botha and members of his Cabinet with an Italian Mafia man and Mr Albert Vermaas, an attorney at the centre of a R150-million Eurobank scandal.

The questions, set down by the Progressive Federal Party and the Conservative Party and which are due for reply on Tuesday, target President Botha, Foreign Minister Mr Pik Botha and Defence Minister General Magnus Malan.

The opposition wants to discover what benefit Mr Vermaas, especially, received through the largesse of his entertainment for Cabinet members.

The PFP's Mr Dave Dalling wants to know if President Botha or any of his senior officials had any contact with "a certain person" — in this case, Mr Vermaas, the nature of contacts and the dates.

The CP's Mr Clive Derby-Lewis's questions relate to Mr Vermaas, arrested on fraud charges, and Vito Palazzolo, a Mafia drug trafficker. Mr Botha has been asked whether he had contact with Mr Palazzolo, when and for what purpose.

Mr Derby-Lewis also wants to know why and how many times the Defence Minister met Mr Vermaas after November 10 last year, when the flamboyant Pretoria millionaire was refused a security clearance.

The PFP's Mr Jasper Walsh is asking General Malan why he flew to Mauritius last year as Mr Vermaas's guest aboard an aircraft owned by Mr Vermaas's Chieftain Airlines and who paid for the trip.

The PFP's Mr John Malcolm, in addition, has raised the spectre of wholesale corruption through under-the-counter oil purchases.

General Malan has hit back at what he termed the cross-examination he had faced over his "alleged involvement" with Mr Vermaas.

He said that, in principle, integrity and trust were essential for clean administration.

Mistakes could occur within the State's machinery and these had to be handled through existing mechanisms such as departmental inquiries, the courts and institutions such as the office of the Advocate-General.
Two officials suspended

Political Staff

TWO senior Department of Development Aid officials were suspended from duty in December last year after irregularities had been uncovered, the auditor-general, Dr Joep de Loor, said in his report on general affairs activities, tabled in Parliament yesterday.

Certain matters had also been referred to the police for investigation, Dr De Loor said.

R2.5 million had been recovered, but there was an amount of R592 808 outstanding.
State blows R70m on theft and bungling

By PETER FABRICIUS  
Political Staff

THEFT, bungling, unauthorised expenditure, accidents and other losses cost more than R70-million in the "general affairs" State departments last year.

Auditor General Dr Joop de Loor noted these losses in his audit report tabled in Parliament yesterday for the 1987/1988 financial year.

The losses ranged from the R176 738 for a ship stolen from the Navy to the total of R18 783 387 which motor vehicle accidents cost the Defence Force, police and the Department of Transport.

"Fruitless expenditure" totalled about R1.5 million including R844 589 wasted by the SA Tourism Board on offices which had to be replanned due to failed specifications.

"Unauthorised expenditure" totalled R1 593 062 including an amount of R13 849 overpaid to senior police officers under the subsidised motor transport scheme because they were given more luxurious cars than they were entitled to.

Dr de Loor listed nine examples of misappropriation or theft, totalling R3 417 365 and including:

- R225 193 fraudulently obtained from the Unemployment Insurance Fund;
- R315 401 stolen from the police, and
- R361 177 stolen from the Defence Force.

Peanut butter

Dr de Loor found that R3 746 393 had been lost to the State because of cancellations or variations of contracts.

These ranged from the R159 000 lost in a contract to supply peanut butter, to an estimated R17-million lost in transport contracts for the supply of fuel and stores. Under "losses", Dr de Loor totalled over R56-million, including a whopping R38 217 058 lost by the Defence Force.

This included:

- The R56 029 damage to an aircraft after a collision with a vehicle;
- R365 063 damage to an aircraft as a result of a "serious and unavoidable" accident.

Dr de Loor listed over R56-million in losses in various departments and statutory bodies, although some of these figures were duplicated in his listings under thefts and misappropriations.

One of the major losses not included in this list was the R18 783 387 expenditure caused by motor vehicle accidents in the defence, police and transport departments.

The greatest loss was in police vehicle accidents which cost R8 721 361 in direct damage, payouts for injuries and legal costs.

Dr de Loor's report covered only the audits of the "general affairs" department and statutory bodies.

It excluded the three "own affairs" - administrations, SA Transport Services, Post and Telecommunications, the four provincial administrations, 21 agricultural control boards, 16 regional service councils and the governments of the self-governing territories.

Parliamentary reports, page 6.
Elderly whites more liable to attacks in their homes

Crime Reporter

ELDERLY non-whites are far less likely to be attacked in their homes than elderly whites because they do not live alone, police said.

A statement released by police headquarters said the majority of victims attacked in their homes in white residential areas were elderly people who lived on their own.

"Cases where elderly non-whites become the target of criminals in their own homes in non-white residential areas in towns and cities are extremely rare," police said.

The police statement added that "as a rule" elderly blacks did not live alone in residential areas.

Earlier in the year the Commissioner of the SAP, General Henkie de Witt, said the number of people attacked in their homes in white residential areas had jumped by 10% during the last six months of 1988.

General De Witt said this figure was compared to those of the first six months of the year. The general added that 63% of the 298 people who were attacked were women.

Police could not provide figures for attacks on people in their homes in non-white residential areas. The reason given was that the attacks in non-white areas were classified under the specific crime being committed, such as rape or murder.

Auto teller tricksters on the loose

Five cops on murder charge

DURBAN. — Five Port Natal policemen appeared at a Scottburgh sitting of the Supreme Court yesterday to face a charge of murdering a suspect.

The accused, Constables Hendrik Johannes Reyneke, 23, Sibusiso Sabela, 34, Sipho Mabuku, 28, and Thembenkosi Mthombeni, 29, and Sergeant Eduard Smith, 23, pleaded not guilty.

The state alleges the men murdered Mr Mmisoane Shangase on June 1, 1987. — Sapa

Tukkies let it all hang out

PRETORIA. — University
Vermaas's overseas assets frozen

Own Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG. — The Reserve Bank will institute legal action in the US and Europe in an attempt to freeze all the assets of Verco Holdings and Chieftain Aviation, both of which are wholly owned by Pretoria attorney Mr Albert Vermaas.

The bank served an attachment notice to the provisional liquidators of Verco yesterday because it had reasonable grounds to suspect foreign exchange regulations had been contravened. Reserve Bank attorney Mr Tippie Luttig said Mr Vermaas can challenge the Reserve Bank's attachment notice served yesterday.

"The reason for serving the attachment was to prevent the sale of assets pending an investigation by the bank in the US, Europe and SA," Mr Luttig said.

The move effectively blocks attempts by the Luxembourg-based United Ordnance Procurement SA to purchase Mr Vermaas's airline Chieftain Aviation for R155m.

Last Friday, the Pretoria Supreme Court extended the return date of liquidation and sequestration applications against Verco, Eurotrust and Mr Vermaas to February 28, the effective date for the sale of the airline.

The applicants — the provisional liquidators and Sentra-Oes — were given leave to anticipate the return date within 24 hours if further information came to light.

Mr Vermaas's business affairs have been the subject of an investigation by the Harms Commission since November. In December the Reserve Bank set up a special committee to investigate forex fraud, including Mr Vermaas's commercial rand transactions totalling R100m and finrand transactions totalling R92m.

Mr Vermaas sent the money out of South Africa during an 18-month period to pay for the purchase of spares and aircraft for his airline, Chieftain Aviation, and R92m was returned to South Africa during the same period by "overseas investors" who purchased various companies owned by Mr Vermaas.

The Harms Commission heard last year that in several of these rand transactions Mr Vermaas acted as an agent for himself and for the overseas buyer.

The provisional liquidators said yesterday that the interests of creditors would be protected and to this end they would take whatever steps were necessary.

Assets which have been attached include all the right title and interest of: The entire issued share capital of Verco, Verco loan accounts, the luxury fishing boat Gabriella, the entire issued share capital of Chieftain Aviation, loan accounts which Verco or Mr Vermaas has with Chieftain, and all Mr Vermaas's and Verco's right, title and interest in and to the entire issued share capital in FDI Anstalt Vaduz, Lichtenstein.

In addition, three Cessna aircraft in SA were attached, three helicopters and 14 other aircraft that are currently in SA and overseas.
PRETORIA. — A chief director (culture and youth activities) of the Department of Education and Training testified before the Van den Heever Commission here yesterday that he had discovered money was used without following DET procedure when the police were investigating a fraud case against an employee of the department.

Mr Johannes Philip Engelbrecht said he could not disclose the employee's name as he had not been summoned to appear before the commission.

The commission — a panel of three commissioners under the chairmanship of Miss Justice Leonora van den Heever — has been appointed to conduct an inquiry into the possible irregular spending of state funds by DET officials.

Answering a question by commissioner Mr Nollie Niehaus, Mr Engelbrecht said it was easy to for officials to find out correct procedure.

Although he might not have given them answers, he could have referred them to the relevant people.

Mr Engelbrecht was questioned on the buying of training-course material and motivation placards from the companies of Mr Thinus Strydom, the son of DET chief director Mr Jaap Strydom.

About R800,000 was spent between February 1987 and June 1987, according to Mr Niehaus.

Mr Engelbrecht said he had instructed various departments under him to bring all cheques for payments for approval and signing to him, and this ruling was still in force today.

Mr Leon Schonken, former acting deputy director of the DET (youth activities), testified that he had been worried when a large consignment of training-course material and placards was bought just before the end of the department's financial year.

He said he had been worried because the free-market system had not been adhered to when buying the material and quotes had not been requested from other firms.

Asked what he had done about the fact that he, on several occasions, had bought the material from Mr Strydom's firm, Mr Schonken said he had done nothing about it.

Mr Schonken said he had bought other goods from Mr Strydom just during the following financial year. — Sapa
THOUSANDS of cheques worth millions of rand have been stolen after being posted to taxpayers by the Receiver of Revenue, by what appears to be an organised criminal network.

The Commissioner for Inland Revenue, Mr Clive Kingon, confirmed yesterday that some 8,000 cheques worth millions had been stolen.

And he disclosed that a man had been caught with 40 cheques and had been prosecuted.

Mr Kingon said the cheques were "intercepted" after being sent out by the Receiver of Revenue and then cashed in different places, very often by small businesses.

One, he said, had even been cashed at a bank.

Mr Kingon said that every case involving a missing cheque was followed up and in 70% of the cases the cheque was successfully traced. Where a crossed cheque had been cashed by a small business, the money had been recovered from that business.

The commissioner said the disappearance of the cheques was why the Receiver wished to pay refunds into bank or building society accounts and was requesting taxpayers to supply account numbers.

However, he said problems did exist where people did not have accounts, gave an invalid account number or refused to give that information.

Apart from the criminal aspect, the issue was involving his staff in an enormous number of hours work tracing the stolen cheques.

The issue of the stolen cheques was raised by the MP for Yeoville, Mr Harry Schwarz, when he spoke in the mini-Budget debate on Monday.

He said he suspected that the source of the theft was the Post Office, and the Minister of Posts and Telecommunications, Mr Stoffel Botha, has confirmed that an investigation into the disappearance of the cheques was under way.

According to Mr Schwarz, one of the "scams" which was being worked was to open an account in the name of the payee on the cheque, deposit the cheque and then draw out the money.

Mr Schwarz has also pointed out a further problem that the recipients of cheques which are stolen are having to wait months and months until a full investigation has been carried out.
CAPE TOWN — Finance Minister Barend du Plessis revealed yesterday that the theft of Receiver of Revenue cheques was more widespread than originally believed.

Du Plessis released figures showing that between April and November last year a total of 16,144 cheques went missing.

Of these 8,152 cheques worth R3.47m were fraudulently cashed.

The remainder of the cheques worth R3.09m had not been cashed.

In 5,192 cases where cheques had been fraudulently cashed, a total of R2.18m had been recovered.

Recovery proceedings were in progress in the remaining 3,016 cases, valued at R1.29m.

ROGER SMITH reports that a Business Day investigation found that scores of people are queuing daily at the Receiver’s refund office in Johannesburg in connection with missing cheques.

Officials told people it could take anything up to two years before final payment of the missing money could be made.

They said if the missing cheque had not yet been cashed, it would be cancelled and a duplicate issued within eight weeks.

But if the cheque had already been cashed, the claimant had to make out an affidavit and await the outcome of an investigation.

Manpower director-general Joel Fourie said 919 unemployment and maternity benefit cheques had been stolen from post offices last year.
The roots of corruption

If Sol Kerzner had paid a bribe to show movies on Sundays, I would have shouted "Bravo!" Even if he were granted monopoly rights, we'd be better off because it would give us more choice of what we do.

Contrary to popular thought (or lack of it), bribery is not inherently "bad." In socialist countries, bribery and other forms of "corruption" have become necessary tools of survival. When governments interfere with the natural conduct of trade and production, they hurt a person's ability to achieve his full potential and to earn a living. Who can blame a person for wanting to get around restrictions on his freedom?

The tougher the restrictions, the greater the incentive to break the law. That's why countries with the most official corruption also have the most government.

It should be no surprise that as the power of the SA government (and the homelands) grows, perceived corruption is also growing.

The vast majority of corruption cases revolve around the abuse of government power. Government regulations have artificially created whole new classes of "criminals." For example, exchange control violations cannot occur in a free market — because such controls wouldn't exist.

In paying the bribe, Kerzner went along with the system instead of martyrting himself in what most people see as a hopeless fight for government "morality."

The envious have pounced on Kerzner's mistake as an example of the evils of capitalism — but the bribes occurred because of government power, not market freedom.

Most people have ignored the crux of the problem. Instead of asking: "Did Sol Kerzner pay a bribe?" we should ask: "Why did Matanzima have the power to decide who can run a casino?"

On this side of the border, why does government have the power not only to regulate business but to outlaw non-aggressive activities such as gambling and Sunday filmgoing. We force people either to break the law or travel to another country to partake.

In addition, by making gambling illegal here, SA has made Transkei's gambling business even more lucrative. History is rife with meddling missionaries who impose their own version of morality on everyone and make life worse for honest people. The well-intentioned ladies of the American temperance movement sought to save souls by pushing Prohibition. The result was a windfall for the likes of Al Capone.

Government claims to promote free enterprise, but makes lawbreakers of people who operate cinemas on Sunday, buy foreign exchange without the permission of Big Brother, or run an efficient telephone service.

The worst aspect is that it's perfectly legal to use bribery in the name of "democracy." Not only does big government encourage bribery, it harnesses it to retain power. Democracy, as exercised in most of the world, consists of buying votes:

☐ When you hold down interest rates until after an election, that is bribery;
☐ When you take tax money from one group to give to another as a subsidy to get votes, that is bribery; and
☐ When you create government monopoly companies to give jobs to government supporters, that is bribery.

Calls for government to "do something" about an economic situation opens the way for bribery. So don't get indignant and self-righteous when examples are exposed. You asked for it.

This is why we should give priority to a constitution that prevents parliament or bureaucrats from interfering in any economic activity. Instead of babbling about "power sharing" we should be reducing power.

Those who talk about democracy and freedom, but don't say how they'll protect property from a supreme parliament, expose themselves as fascists. Without economic freedom, there'll never be any other freedom.

Do you really want to reduce corruption? You must reduce government. Its only justifiable activity is national defence. Anything else is a blatant payoff to special interests.
Blasting back: The Gusheshit anti-rape hit squad

Women in Namibia are taking a stand against violence...
Govt officials quit in clean up

50 detainees to be released

Interest raises pressure

SUMMARY

Food is the most basic need of mankind and in the era of commerce and globalization food security has become a major concern. The present government is committed to ensuring food security for all citizens. The government has implemented various policies and initiatives to achieve this goal.

EXPRESS EDITION

CPS Town Pressure: Am Bede detained with the 1966 Ceylon Regular Forces

may go

the mangroves by piratical cutters.
DET problems: PFP call for Viljoen's axing

By ANTHONY JOHNSON Political Correspondent

THE PFP yesterday called on Dr Gerrit Viljoen to consider resigning from the cabinet because of the inefficiencies and irregularities continuing to bedevil the Department of Education and Training (DET).

Speaking during the debate on the Additional Appropriation Bill in Parliament, Mr Peter Soal (PFP Johannesburg North) said that conditions had deteriorated to such an extent in the departments for which he was responsible that he should think about handing over to someone who was more competent.

Mr Ken Andrew (PFP Gardens) said that while Dr Viljoen's personal honesty was not in question, maladministration and management problems in the departments for which he was responsible were "repeated and continual".

Mr Andrew, the PFP spokesman on black education, said the handling of matric results by the DET had been "shambolic".

He said that the results achieved by children at DET schools were "appalling".

"However, what is even more inexcusable are the delays that regularly occur in the issuing of results and the inaccuracies in the results issued."

Mr Andrew wanted to know why the expenditure budget for examination services was down by a third despite rapid increases in the number of matriculants.

"Matriculants were unable to finalise their plans for 1989 — whether they were to study at university, get a job or return to school — because they did not have their correct results in good time."

Repeating to the debate on his vote, Dr Viljoen acknowledged that there were certain shortcomings in the existing system for black matric exams and results but stated that overall the situation was a "matter for great pride".

Dr Viljoen said that the 84 000 black candidates passing matric was now considerably higher than the 62 000 figure for white pupils — something which would "materially influence" the manpower situation in the country.

While the 55% overall pass rate for black matriculants was "still poor", the pass rate in 40 schools of between 80% and 100% "shows what can be done."

Dr Viljoen said that the budget for administering examination was being cut because homeland governments were now contributing towards costs and computerisation had produced savings.

He said that 90% of matric candidates had received their results before Christmas last year.
Suspended 10 may be ‘tip of the iceberg’

The Argus Correspondent

PRETORIA. - Police investigating alleged irregularities into the Department of Education and Training believe the 10 officials suspended for alleged transgressions so far could be only the tip of the iceberg.

This follows the announcement by Dr Gerrit Viljoen, Minister of Education and Training, that nine officials from his department had been suspended following allegations of corruption and inefficiency.

Apart from the departmental suspensions, the police are also investigating criminal charges against some of the officials.

In a statement, Dr Viljoen said the suspensions were taken following an internal investigation by his department.

"The allegations were serious and we believe they could have widespread implications," Dr Viljoen said.

The suspensions were made in connection with cases involving the expenditure of public funds, the alleged overcharging of contractors, and the misuse of departmental resources.

Dr Viljoen said the department would cooperate fully with the police in their investigations.

Meanwhile, the South African National Union of Teachers (SANTU) has called for a thorough and independent inquiry into the allegations.

"We cannot accept a situation where resources that belong to the people are being misused," said SANTU President, Mr Moeletsi Mbeki.

The Argus Political Staff reports that the government will be forced to introduce new measures to prevent similar incidents from occurring in the future.

"We need to address the root causes of such irregularities," said Treasury Minister, Mr Trevor Manuel.

Meanwhile, the Democratic Party has called for an independent investigation into the allegations.

"We believe that such allegations must be taken seriously and investigated thoroughly," said DP Leader, Mr Tony Leon.

New exposures

In a separate development, the Public Protector, Mr Peter Soal, has launched investigations into allegations of corruption at the Department of Development, which oversees the Reconstruction and Development Programme.

"We have received complaints from numerous sources suggesting that there has been mismanagement," Soal said.

Soal said the allegations included the misuse of public funds, irregular contracts and the awarding of tenders to friends and relatives.

He said the Public Protector’s office would conduct a thorough investigation into the allegations.

"We cannot allow corruption to continue in this way," he said.

Meanwhile, the African National Congress has called for the resignations of those responsible for the allegations.

"We cannot allow the people to be short-changed," said ANC President, Mr Jacob Zuma.

"The whole can of worms is not yet out," Mr Soal said.

Dr Viljoen said yesterday in Parliament that he had taken steps against several officials and all found guilty of neglect of duty or criminal misconduct would be taken to task.

More parliamentary reports, page 7.
Magnus Malan to give evidence to Harms Commission

Political Staff

The Minister of Defence, General Magnus Malan, is to give evidence to the Harms Commission on his dealings with Mr Albert Vermaas.

General Malan was asked in Parliament by Mr Jasper Walsh (PFP Pinelands) if he had visited Mauritius last year, at whose invitation and in whose aircraft.

General Malan said he would answer the questions in his evidence to the Harms Commission.

Last night, Mr Walsh said the minister's reply was a "non-reply".

"The minister has an obligation to reply to questions put to him in Parliament," he said.

Press reports of personal links between General Malan and Mr Vermaas have focused on a fishing trip to Mauritius in which General Malan allegedly used an aircraft owned by Mr Vermaas's Chieftain Airlines and visits by the general to Mr Vermaas's game farm in Namibia.

General Malan has said his group paid for their travel, hotel and fishing expenses.

Chieftain Airlines has reportedly been contracted in the past by the SADF to carry out official missions.

Foreign Minister Mr Pik Botha said on Monday that he was "sick and tired" of his department being linked to Chieftain Airlines, saying the department had used the company just three times out of 90 charter flights.
Resign, De Beer tells Viljoen

Political Correspondent
PFP leader Dr Zach de Beer yesterday "demanded" that the controversy-ridden Minister of Education and Development Aid, Dr Gerrit Viljoen, should resign immediately.

The demand follows the announcement that 10 officials in the departments of Development Aid and Education and Training face possible criminal charges after being suspended, and the police disclosure that the alleged transgression could be only the tip of the iceberg.

But Dr Viljoen said last night: "Now is not the time to resign.

"I have committed myself over a considerable period to identifying all traces of maladministration and criminal activities in my departments."

The publicity that arises now is caused by the fact that I have taken very drastic steps. This is an indication of the seriousness with which I am tackling these problems."

Dr De Beer noted that reports of irregularities had been emerging from the two departments under Dr Viljoen's control for the past two years.

"No suggestion is made of improper or corrupt behaviour on the part of the minister, but is clear that he is not competent to administer these departments adequately."
DET chose tenderer ‘due to family ties’

PRETORIA. — One of the reasons why Mr. Thiagus Strydom won a tender to print a newspaper for the Free State region of the Department of Education and Training (DET) was his family ties, a witness told the Van den Heever Commission here.

Mr. N Botha, the Free State regional director of the department, conceded under cross-examination that part of the reason he gave the tender to Mr. Strydom was because he was the son of the department’s deputy director-general, Mr. Jaap Strydom.

Mr. Botha listed other reasons as: Mr. Strydom’s quotation was one of the lowest, he promised to do the job immediately and he promised to print 200 copies of the newspaper on glossy paper at no extra charge.

Mr. Botha also conceded that he had not followed DET procedure when tendering for 6,000 copies of the second issue of the newspaper, which were also printed by Mr. Strydom Jr.

The hearing continues — Sapa
Vermaas row
Minister summons A-G

Johannesburg - The Attorney-General of Transvaal, Mr. Don Brunette, has been summoned to Cape Town today to discuss with Minister of Justice Mr. Kobie Coetsee his decision to withdraw charges against Pretoria lawyers Mr. Albert Vermaas and Mr. Eugene Berg.

Mr. Coetsee said last night that he personally would be seeing Mr. Brunette about the issue. The minister's involvement comes after the withdrawal of the charges.

The commission has been investigating charges of fraud against the commission, which has been headed by Mr. Vermaas since last November.

A changes picture

Asked if he had considered the possibility of the charges being withdrawn, Mr. Coetsee said, "I had nothing on which to base my decision." He

said he had not had an opportunity to investigate or read "lots of evidence" still in the possession of the commission. A commission spokesman said evidence put before it was available to all interested parties on request only, as commissions were prohibited from disseminating information.

Mr. Brunette said he had been given a "totally incomplete" preliminary police docket which could take six months or more to complete. This could not be done until the commission had completed its investigation.

He said Mr. Vermaas had used the criminal charges as a protection from giving evidence to the commission and provisionally withdrawing the charges he had hoped to afford Mr. Vermaas the opportunity of testifying. He said a provisional withdrawal of charges meant he could still be obliged to prosecute Mr. Vermaas at a later date.
CP also calls for Viljoen to resign.

By ANTHONY JOHNSON
Political Correspondent

THE Conservative Party yesterday became the second opposition party in two days to call for the resignation of the embattled Minister of Education and Development Aid, Dr Gerrit Viljoen.

FPF leader Dr Zach de Beer on Tuesday demanded the immediate resignation of Dr Viljoen following the announcement that 10 officials in departments under his control had been suspended pending possible criminal charges.

In Parliament yesterday, the CP's chief spokesman on finance, Mr Casper Uys, told Dr Viljoen to "go back to the world of academia where you belong".

Mr Uys said he had great respect for Dr Viljoen as a thinker and scholar, but Dr Viljoen had failed to take timely action when warning were issued about irregularities in his departments last year.

The fact that police investigating alleged irregularities had described them as possibly only the tip of the iceberg, meant that the situation had developed to a point where it was "late in the day", he said.
Malan to testify on ‘fishing trip’

Own Correspondent
JOHANNESBURG. — The Minister of Defence, General Magnus Malan, spent a brief fishing trip in Mauritius on a boat called Nitor which at one time was going to be bought by Jalic Holdings Mauritius, former Nitor Construction director Mr Dennis Stevens said in an interview.

Nitor Construction is a subsidiary of the SA-based Jalic Holdings.

General Malan is to testify before the Harms Commission to answer questions about his involvement in a fishing trip to Mauritius last October.

He was one member of a private party who flew to Mauritius on a chartered Chieftain Air aircraft last October. Chieftain Air is a subsidiary of Chieftain Aviation which is wholly owned by Pretoria attorney Mr Albert Vermaas whose business activities are the focus of an investigation by the Harms Commission.

Speaking from Mauritius, Mr Stevens said General Malan was one of 10 people who went on a fishing trip to Mauritius in October last year. He said the trip was organised by Mr Joe de Decker.

In an interview, Mr De Decker said he was a personal friend of General Malan’s but declined to say if the general joined the trip at his invitation.

Mr Stevens said the Nitor was at one time going to be purchased by Jalic but it remained registered in the name of the Mauritius owner.

"However I have access to the boat when it is not on charter," he said.

Both Mr Stevens and Mr De Decker said Mr Vermaas was not a member of their party and that he had arrived in Mauritius after their group had.

"We bumped into him because he was staying at the same hotel as we were," Mr De Decker said.

He said Mr Vermaas never went fishing with the group nor did any of the group go fishing on Mr Vermaas’s luxury boat Gabriella.

Vermaas properties to be attached

Own Correspondent
JOHANNESBURG. — The Reserve Bank will attach three properties, sold by Pretoria attorney Mr Albert Vermaas to alleged overseas investors, this week, Bank attorney Mr Tippy Luttig said yesterday.

He said the Bank had grounds to suspect that foreign exchange regulations had been contravened. Legal action was also being taken overseas to secure assets belonging to Mr Vermaas.

The properties that are to be attached are:

- Kingsway Developments, comprising about 80ha of land adjacent to Lanceria Airport. The Harms Commission heard that the property was purchased for R1.4m and sold 15 months later (December 1986) to Mr Otto Repa of West Germany for R23m.
- Shenandoah Investments, which was wholly owned by Mr Vermaas and which held certain mining and prospecting rights. The Commission heard that Mr Vermaas purchased the company for R1m before selling it in March 1987 to an off-shore company registered in Panama, Syncas Commercial Inc, for R25,9m.
- Duffer Investments, which was purchased by Mr Vermaas for R700,000 and later sold to an overseas buyer for R6m.

The Commission heard that in at least one of the finrand deals, Mr Vermaas had been the seller and had acted as agent for the buyer.

In December, the Commission heard that Mr Vermaas had obtained Reserve Bank approval for finrand transactions totalling R52m during a 18-month period.

Pik wants to give evidence

THE Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr Pik Botha, says he would welcome the opportunity to give evidence to the Harms Commission.

Mr Botha was responding to media inquiries yesterday that he too would be testifying.

Both Mr Botha and Gen. Malan have been linked to Pretoria lawyer Mr Albert Vermaas.

against whom allegations of foreign exchange fraud have been made.

Mr Botha has also been linked to Mr Chris van Rensburg of Jalic, which is also under investigation. He said yesterday that he had received inquiries from the Commission.
Coetsee, A-G in talks over Vermaas, Berg

The Minister of Justice, Mr Kobie Coetsee, met the Attorney-General of the Transvaal, Mr Don Brunette, yesterday afternoon about his decision provisionally to withdraw charges against Pretoria lawyers Mr Albert Vermaas and Mr Eugene Berg.

But Mr Coetsee gave no indication of what was discussed or whether any decisions were taken.

A spokesman for his office confirmed last night that the minister was considering issues that Mr Brunette submitted to him.

Mr Coetsee is expected to make an announcement soon on his decisions.

Mr Brunette said earlier that he did not have sufficient information with which to draw up indictments. He also said he had not seen or read evidence from the Harms Commission before making his decision except for a portion of the commission's transcript given to him at the time of Mr Vermaas's arrest.

Mr Brunette said he had no knowledge of evidence heard by the commission last Tuesday that at least R30 million which Mr Vermaas had obtained Reserve Bank permission to send to the US to purchase aircraft and spares, had not arrived at its intended destination.—Political Staff and OWN Correspondent.
Malan to testify on ‘fishing trip’

Own Correspondent
Johannesburg. — The Minister of Defence, General Magnus Malan, spent a brief fishing trip in Mauritius on a boat called Nitor which at one time was going to be bought by Jale Holdings Mauritius, former Nitro Construction director Mr Dennis Stevens said in an interview.

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Vermaas properties to be attached

Own Correspondent
Johannesburg. — The Reserve Bank will attach three properties, sold by Pretoria attorney Mr Albert Vermaas to alleged overseas investors, this week, Bank attorney Mr Tippee Langlois said yesterday.

He said the Bank had grounds to suspect that foreign exchange regulations had been contravened. Legal action was also being taken to secure assets belonging to Mr Vermaas.

The properties that are to be attached are:

- Kingsway Developments, comprising about 80ha of land adjacent to Lanseria Airport. The Harms Commission heard the property was purchased for R4.8m and sold 15 months later (December 1984) to Mr Otto Repp of West Germany for R25m.
- Shenandoah Investments, which was wholly owned by Mr Vermaas and held certain mining and prospecting rights. The Commission heard Mr Vermaas purchased the company for R1m before selling it in March 1987 to an offshore company registered in Panama, Syncom Commercial Inc, for R2.5m.
- Curver Investments, which was purchased by Mr Vermaas for R700,000 and later sold to an overseas buyer for R6m.

The Commission heard that at least one of the foreign deals, Mr Vermaas had been the seller and had acted as agent for the buyer.

In December, the Commission heard that Mr Vermaas had 80ha of land in the .

Ballot to decide city planner post

Municipal Reporter
A SUCCESSOR to Mr David Jack, Cape Town’s city planner who is stepping down at the end of the month to take charge of the redevelopment of the city’s docks, will be decided by ballot at Tuesday’s City Council meeting.

This was confirmed yesterday by deputy town clerk Mr Gys Hofmeyr, who said appointments to senior posts such as town clerk and heads of departments had to be approved by the full council using a formal voting procedure.

The ballot will put an end to months of keen speculation on who will occupy this influential post.

Mr Neville Riley and Mr Peter de Tolly are widely thought to be the most likely contenders. Mr Hofmeyr did, however, confirm that Mr de Tolly had been promoted recently to the post of deputy city planner. This puts him on the same level as Mr Riley, who is also a deputy city planner.

For a long time after the city engineer’s department was split to form a separate city planner’s department, Mr Riley was the only deputy city planner while Mr de Tolly was director of planning. Mr Hofmeyr said that two posts of deputy city planner had been created at that time, but only one had been filled.

With the management structure and the areas of responsibility were sorted out late last year, the second post had been filled, he said, and Mr de Tolly had been chosen for the post. Mr Riley, who is the brother of the city engineer Mr Des Riley, has a degree in land surveying from UCT. Mr De Tolly holds a degree in architecture from UCT and a degree in urban design from the University of Toronto.
Coetsee, A-G in talks over Vermaas, Berg

THE Minister of Justice, Mr Kobie Coetsee, met the Attorney-General of the Transvaal, Mr Don Brunette, yesterday afternoon about his decision provisionally to withdraw charges against Pretoria lawyers Mr Albert Vermaas and Mr Eugene Berg.

But Mr Coetsee gave no indication of what was discussed or whether any decisions were taken.

A spokesman for his office confirmed last night that the minister was considering issues that Mr Brunette submitted to him.

Mr Coetsee is expected to make an announcement soon on his decision.

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Mr Brunette said he had no knowledge of evidence heard by the commission last Tuesday that at least R60 million which Mr Vermaas had obtained Reserve Bank permission to send to the US to purchase aircraft and spares, had not arrived at its intended destination. — Political Staff and Own Correspondent
MINISTER of Justice Mr Kobie Coetsee has overruled the decision taken this week by Transvaal Attorney-General Mr Don Brunette provisionally to withdraw criminal charges against Pretoria attorney Mr Albert Vermaas.

It was also learnt last night that:

- The case has been removed summarily from Mr Brunette's jurisdiction and given to Kimberley Attorney-General Mr Charl du Plessis.
- Mr Brunette's instruction that bail conditions imposed on Mr Vermaas be lifted has also been partly rescinded — Mr Vermaas's passport has been confiscated.

Legal circles described the development as an extreme case of official censure, and one without precedent.

The development follows the summoning of Mr Brunette to Cape Town earlier this week to explain his decision to Mr Coetsee.

Official sources in Cape Town disclosed yesterday that the instruction that Mr Vermaas's passport be confiscated came from Home Affairs Minister Mr Stoffel Botha.

At the time of going to press no official confirmation could be obtained. But a spokesman for Mr Coetsee's office did say that a full statement was being prepared and that various departments had to be consulted before it could be released.

Harms Commission transcript

Meanwhile, it was learnt from the Harms Commission yesterday that Mr Brunette — seemingly on the instructions of Mr Coetsee — has requested a full transcript of all the evidence led so far concerning Mr Vermaas's activities.

Presumably this evidence will be handed over to Kimberley Attorney-General Mr Du Plessis.

Mr Brunette is on record as saying that his decision to withdraw charges against Mr Vermaas was made without considering any of the evidence submitted to the commission.

"His explanation for provisionally withdrawing charges was that he did not have sufficient evidence against Mr Vermaas on which to render a charge sheet, and that it could take months to do so.

— Mr Brunette also said Mr Vermaas had used the provisional charges laid against him as a 'pretext for refusing to give evidence to the Harms Commission. It is not yet clear whether, in the light of these most recent developments, Mr Vermaas will be asked again to appear before the commission.
Puzzle of the bogus ‘HSRC’ research

Shadowy pair ask unionists about politics

By CARMEL RICKARD

BOGUS questionnaires bearing the name of the Human Sciences Research Council are being used by a shadowy group, apparently linked to state intelligence, to extract information from trade unions.

The revelations have caused embarrassment to the HSRC whose president, Johan Garbers, said he was “very worried and upset” about the situation.

Garbers said the HSRC was considering taking out large advertisements dissociating the council from the questionnaires.

The fraud was discovered when two union members were approached independently by two people, both with the surname, “Stevens”, and both operating from the same phone number.

One, “Renee Stevens” claimed to be from the HSRC, administering a questionnaire on the research organisation’s behalf.

The other, “Collin Stevens”, wrote a letter to a shop steward, stating frankly that he represented “the intelligence service” and was “directly employed by the government”.

Last month Hassan Amra, a Chemical Workers Industrial Union organiser, was phoned by “Renee” who said she was doing a survey for the HSRC and wanted to interview him.

She claimed to be employed on a freelance basis by the HSRC, that the questionnaire dealt with labour matters and was very confidential and that she had obtained his name from the Congress of South African Trade Unions.

After discussions with colleagues, Amra told her that he wanted to see the questionnaire first.

A few days later she dropped off the nine-page questionnaire, which has an authentic HSRC cover.

It asks about the respondent’s “objectivity” and “self-image” and whether respondents see themselves as “conformist/revolutionist? (why)” and whether they are “socialist/capitalist? (why)?”

It asks how the respondent sees the role of whites in unions (“advisory, participating, dominating, academic, research”) and asks, “Can whites play a major role in non-white unions? (numbers)”.

Other questions include: “Should management be allowed to consult with security forces?”, “Should unions be involved with banned organisations?”.

To PAGE 2
Task force to sift Harms revelations

By TOS WENTZEL,
Political Correspondent
THE government has sealed the country's borders to Pretoria lawyer Mr Albert Vermaas and an associate, Dr Eugene Berg, and their passports have been withdrawn.

A special team is to be appointed to conduct prosecutions which may originate from the investigations of the Harms Commission, the Minister of Justice, Mr Kobie Coetsee, said today.

He said this had been at the request of the Transvaal Attorney-General, Mr Don Brunette.

The Minister said he had held lengthy discussions with Mr Brunette in the past few days.

New facets had come to the attention of Mr Brunette and these were being investigated at present.

Mr Coetsee denied he had overruled Mr Brunette's decision to provisionally withdraw criminal charges against Mr Vermaas.

He also denied reports that the case had been removed summarily from Mr Brunette's jurisdiction and given to Kimberley Attorney-General Mr Charl du Plessis.

Transcripts

Another Department of Justice source said today that criminal matters flowing from the Harms Commission inquiry could become "very big".

Mr Brunette said today he had not rescinded his decision to withdraw charges against Mr Vermaas. He was at present studying transcripts of evidence given to the Harms Commission.

It is understood that new charges may be formulated.

Meanwhile, Mr Gerrie van Zyl, Director-General of the Department of Home Affairs, confirmed today that the passports of Mr Vermaas and Dr Berg, an attorney connected to Mr Vermaas, had been withdrawn.

All departure points around the country had been instructed that the two men should not be allowed to leave.

The decision had been based on information supplied by Mr Brunette, he said.

Harms commission evidence — page 2
A TEAM is to be appointed to conduct possible prosecutions which may arise from the investigation of the Harms Commission within the jurisdiction of the Attorney-General of the Transvaal, according to the Minister of Justice, Mr Kobie Coetsee, yesterday.

In another development, the passports of Mr Albert Vermaas and Mr Eugene Berg have been withdrawn by the Minister of Home Affairs, Mr Staffel Botha, on the grounds of information made available to him.

The decision to form the special team follows discussions in Cape Town between the Transvaal A-G, Mr Don Brunette, and Mr Coetsee over the past few days.

Mr Coetsee said new facets had been brought to the attention of Mr Brunette. These were currently being investigated and Mr Brunette had requested that the team be appointed.

Mr Brunette was called to Cape Town at the beginning of the week to explain why he had decided to provisionally drop charges against Mr Vermaas and Mr Berg.
WHY THE CORRUPTION?

Professor David Bosch of University of South Africa's theological faculty sees the wave of corruption as a manifestation of a moral crisis closely related to South Africa's political crisis. Politics has reached a cul-de-sac where people don't know where the country is going. The whole political spectrum of government and opposition politics is caught up in this uncertainty, even despair.

"I'm very worried about the total moral crisis. It leads to a sense of helplessness and despair which is widespread. I find it everywhere."

There appears to be a tendency among people to withdraw from their responsibility to society because the problems of that society are too big, he says.

Another manifestation of the crisis is a tendency among people to throw themselves into the pursuit of pleasure - to pluck the day.

The spirit of materialism is an escape from realities which cannot be faced.

He likens these to the conditions that prevailed in civilisations like those that were the Roman Empire when they reached their final collapse and collapse. An underlying feature is the feeling of insecurity. In a recent article on corruption Professor Bosch calls for a reassessment of values. He notes there was a time when the image of the Afrikaner was that of a simple-minded, hard-working people who were "not clever" but who were at least known for his honesty and frugality. That image appeared to have vanished and that of a decadent man.

A key event in the destruction of this favourable reputation was the secret invasion of Africa in 1979 by the government officially denied for months that any South African soldiers were in that country.

When the truth was revealed later - and was eventually admitted - people began questioning the credibility of official government statements.

This followed the information scandal, which was a direct violation of the traditional image of Afrikaner integrity as reflected by the government.

The latest wave of corruption is a comparable trend in the decline of that image.

Professor Bosch points to a common factor in the Agassiz/Inferno affairs - the culture of secrecy and a climate in which Afrikaner Nationalists in the Agassiz/Inferno affair have been immune to exposure as long as they professed to be acting in the "national interest."

CORRUPTION IS HAPPENING ON AN UNPRECEDENTED SCALE IN OUR COUNTRY. WHY? This is what WEEKEND ARGUS political writer FRANS ESTERHUYSE asked some leading academics, and the answers he got present an interesting, if not scary, scenario.

In this article some speak of a total moral crisis resulting from a growing sense of political hopelessness. It is variously ascribed to others to the government cult of secrecy, to the growth of bureaucracy, and to Afrikanerdom's growth in wealth. It is even likened to the decline of the Roman Empire.

"Has a climate developed in which news manipulation and the concealment (or distortion) of the truth has become accepted?" he asks.

MONG those who agree with most of Professor Bosch's argument is Professor S.J. Steffen's Doel, head of the department of policy and psychology at the University of Pretoria.

He says although corruption is not confined to Afrikaners, some of the causes can be traced to Afrikaner problems. He says that comparable poverty among black people today.

A further factor worth examining is the country's high inflation rate. He has made a study of the problem but his impression is that conditions are high inflation rate may be more prone to corruption.

Under conditions of high inflation, there is a tendency among people to feel they must grab what they can get. Feel they are being robbed and therefore they can rob others.

Whatever the cause, the incidence of corruption is "a very serious problem," he says.

HOW many-faceted the corruption problem is shown by the many theories even the experts have. But while the theories extend to nearly all aspects of life, they are mostly de- rectly or indirectly linked to the country's political and social system.

Professor Sam Terrebancha, head of economics at Stellenbosch, sums up the main theories in three terms:

- The Government's over-long period in power. After more than 40 years, a huge bureaucracy has developed. People are hired to perform themselves in and around the public sector, and there is a widespread tendency to use positions and the bureaucracy to draw further advantages. Using the system is but one step away from misusing it.

This is contrary to the practice in most Western democracies where control is exercised by changes of government at regular intervals ranging from five to eight years.

- The rapid rise of Afrikaner wealth. The economic progress of the Afrikaner in the past 40 years has probably been unrepeatable in the world, except among the Japanese. Much of this progress occurred in the first 20 years. After rising rapidly from relative poverty to wealth, many people found it difficult to maintain their newly-rich living standards when economic declines set in during the past 10 years. This encouraged malpractices.

- The huge bureaucracy. This developed especially in the agro-food system and was extended to the black homelands, where some clerical leaders reaped the benefits of this system.

- The cult of secrecy in government. This was developed even more when the government claimed secrecy was necessary to the struggle against economic sanctions. It created more opportunities for people to obtain benefits from the system without being seen.

"During the period of high growth and artificial Afrikaner upliftment (Part and parcel of the apartheid system), a very conscious rich man's cult developed in some Afrikaner circles, especially in the bureaucratic city of Pretoria." But given the economic stagnation of the past decade, it is no longer possible to satisfy the spiral of rising expectations generated by this kind of cult. Attempts to meet these expectations in spite of the state of the economy may be an important reason for the breakdown of public morality.

A NOTHER aspect of corruption which some believe should be looked at is the thin line between widespread (though secretly tainted) practices and the publicly corrupt actions. From one side of the line it may be just one small step to the other. More often than not the dividing line is so obscure that it is difficult to tell where corruption begins.

Professor Jan van Arkel of Unisa's department of practical theology identifies this problem as one arising from the development of apothesis forms of corruption.

Although he does not think corruption is anything new, there appears to have been an increase in more "refined" forms of it.

He draws a distinction between socially - and legally - accepted forms of obtaining personal benefits and direct forms of bribery.

"Refined" or indirect payment for benefits can include practices like taking people on hunting trips, free holidays or other fun excursions.

THERE are also sophisticated forms of corruption arising from the system of allowable benefit for certain categories of people. Under the taxation system, for example, many doubtful practices have developed, enabling some to evade tax.

It is known that at the municipal level various kinds of practices occur to make it easier for people to get building plans passed or to obtain other benefits behind the scenes.

"It often happens that the higher the social position or status of the individual, the greater are the benefits he is able to obtain."

Professor van Arkel, one of the first researchers to make an in-depth study of the incidence and causes of family murders, believes the effect of the political environment on the thinking of people could be a factor behind such occurrences.

Although he has not made any special study of corruption, his remarks are based on some of his observations.

He sees it as a problem that should be studied in depth - "the whole structure of society should be looked at. We should look at the basic question of what is honest and what is dishonest.

The corruption scene as revealed so far by official investigations shows a marked similarity to the pattern in some Third World states.

It has been described as "the curse of the underdeveloped" by two researchers, Nick Gray and Lascaris, in their recent book, Third World Disease: The Corrupt Society.

The word uncorrupt is used in sub-Saharan Africa to describe a separate class of beings who have been lw off the face of the land.

The word derives from a status symbol that distinguishes them as Mercedes.

The uncorrupted, the officials, sometime corrupt, sometimes merely selfish and opportunistic, who are closely connected with the ruling clique. They lead a glamorous and comfortable life.

The word is used in the country of the United States, which has a similar culture.

Possession of growing armies of perks, privileges and parasites has until now been an indication of Third World status...."
Charges to be made by A-G ‘task force’

OWN CORRESPONDENT
JOHANNESBURG. — A team of three or four advocates from the Transvaal Attorney-General’s office would spearhead a “task force” to formulate prosecution charges against Pretoria attorneys Mr Albert Vermaas and Mr Eugene Berg. Transvaal Attorney-General Mr Don Brunette said yesterday.

He said he had assembled a team of his own staff. If necessary, others might be seconded to the team.

Mr Brunette’s statement came after Friday’s announcement by Justice Minister Mr Kobie Coetsee that Mr Brunette had asked him to constitute a special team to conduct possible prosecutions originating from the Harms Commission investigation, in his area of jurisdiction.

Last week Mr Brunette provisionally withdrew charges against Mr Berg and Mr Vermaas because, he said, he did not have sufficient evidence on which to formulate charges and it could take months to do so. Two days later Mr Brunette met Mr Coetsee in Cape Town for lengthy discussions.

In his statement on Friday the minister said: “New facts have come to the attention of Mr Brunette which are at present being investigated.

The Home Affairs Minister has in the meanwhile, on grounds of information made available to him by Mr Brunette, withdrawn the passports of Berg and Vermaas.”

Mr Coetsee was reported to have denied reports he had taken Mr Brunette off the Vermaas case.

On Friday it was learnt in Cape Town that the case had been given to Kimberley Attorney-General Mr Charl du Plessis. Mr Du Plessis declined to comment on Friday.

Mr Coetsee was unavailable for comment yesterday.

The sequestration and liquidation application against Mr Vermaas and his company will be heard in the Supreme Court, Pretoria, tomorrow. The cases were postponed in December to give Mr Vermaas a chance to conclude the sale of his airline, Chief- tain Aviation Holdings, to an overseas buyer for R155 million. The effective date of the deal is February 28.

No impropriety implied in seizure —
Arabs may be called to testify in South Africa.

South Africa's highest court has ordered the government to provide evidence to support its claim that Arabs were involved in a plot to overthrow the government.

The court ruled that the government must provide evidence to prove its allegations, and that the evidence must be presented in a way that is transparent and accessible to the public.

The ruling follows a series of investigations into the so-called 'Arab plot', which has been widely discredited by experts.

The court's decision is likely to be seen as a significant victory for those who have been fighting against the government's attempts to suppress evidence of its connection to the plot.

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**Related Reading:**
- "Arab plot: South Africa's highest court orders evidence disclosure"
- "Arab plot: Government ordered to provide evidence"
Yermans is back in dock near house in blast

Three hurt in astonishing gun of

By MANY DEAN WOODS

EROUHORI

THERE'S people reading the newspaper like we read the news.
Mr. C. has added a new dimension to the public's understanding of the crisis. His analysis of the situation is not only insightful but also timely. By highlighting the underlying issues, he has provided a comprehensive framework for addressing the challenges we face. His arguments are well-grounded and thought-provoking, making them invaluable contributions to the ongoing debate. We must continue to support his work, ensuring that his perspectives are considered in all discussions and decisions.
In an astonishing turn of events, Pretoria attorneys Eugene and Albert Vermaas and Mr. Don Brunette were yesterday charged again on the instructions of Transvaal attorney-general. The move comes just one week after Mr. Brunette, in a shock move, petitioned the court to have the charges against him withdrawn. The court, however, ruled against Mr. Brunette, and the charges were reinstated. This has caused a major uproar in the legal community, with many questioning the motives behind the repeated charges. The charges relate to the so-called "Icicle theft case," which has been the subject of much controversy and public scrutiny. The case is set to be heard next month.
Coetsee calls for probe of Corruption Act defects

Political Staff

THE Minister of Justice, Mr Kobie Coetsee, has asked the South African Law Commission to investigate defects in the Prevention of Corruption Act.

He was acting after the Harms Commission had pointed out certain shortcomings in the act.

Mr Coetsee was responding to a question from PFP MP Mr Dave Dalling in Parliament yesterday, said that at this stage the government was not considering tabling a white paper on the first two reports of the Harms Commission.

This was because the recommendations in the first two reports were well defined and had already been given effect to.

Mr Coetsee said various attorneys-general were considering possible charges indicated in the first two reports.

The Law Society of the Cape was also considering the reports.

He added that "the finding of the commission in connection with certain political-ethical issues and the violation of the inter-state relationship with Ciskei were referred to the Speaker of Parliament and the Department of Foreign Affairs, respectively for possible action".

Mr Coetsee said further investigation arising from the Harms Commission report would be "a matter of decision for the commission".

By CHRIS CAIRNCROSS

THE new criminal charges formulated against Pretoria attorney Mr Albert Vermaas by Transvaal attorney-general Mr Don Brunette amount to 22 counts of fraud involving some R300 million, while those against his co-accused, Mr Eugene Berg, amount to four counts of fraud involving some R18.5m.

This is according to the charge sheet lodged at the Pretoria Magistrate's Court on Monday.

The charges against Mr Vermaas and Mr Berg stem from evidence heard by the Harms Commission in Pretoria in November and December last year.

'Spurious and false'

The new charges follow Mr Brunette's decision a week ago to provisionally drop all charges against the two men. Mr Brunette maintained he did not have sufficient evidence on which to render a chargesheet.

Mr Brunette's original decision was described in Parliament yesterday as spurious and false, having no basis in law and not in the interests of justice.

This was said by PFP MP Mr Jan van Gend, who spoke during a mini-debate in which the Minister of Justice, Mr Kobie Coetsee, was called on to explain his involvement in the saga and why Mr Brunette had decided originally to withdraw the charges.

Mr Coetsee said Mr Brunette had first informed him that the charges had been withdrawn in the light of six civil cases involving Mr Vermaas and concerning sequestrations and liquidations which were underway in the Transvaal.

Mr Brunette subsequently informed him on Monday that in the light of information contained in evidence to the Harms Commission, he had decided to re-institute charges in a case now postponed to June 5.

Mr Van Gend said during the debate that Mr Coetsee, by his conduct, had admitted that Mr Brunette's action in withdrawing the charges against Mr Vermaas was unwarranted and not in the interests of justice.

He said that in his view the action was "patently stupid". Every reason Mr Brunette had withdrawn it for had been both "spurious and false".

"They have no basis in law and are contradicted by the specific provisions of the Criminal Procedure Act and the Commissions Act, with which Mr Brunette, as attorney-general, must surely be familiar," Mr Coetsee Mr Van Gend asked what had motivated Mr Brunette to withdraw the original charges and return Mr Vermaas and Mr Berg's passports, observing that if ever there were two men who had pressing reasons to skip the country it was they.

"It could, of course, be that Vermaas' disappearance would allow a few of his friends in high places to sleep comfortably at night," Mr Van Gend said.

He added that Mr Vermaas was no ordinary criminal.
PRETORIA. — Mr Albert Wessel Vermaas's estate was finally sequestrated while his business empire — barring Eurobank — was finally liquidated by the Supreme Court here yesterday.

The orders, by Mr Justice Van Niekerk, brought to an end months of legal wrangling.

Mr Vermaas is yet to face criminal charges allegedly stemming from the affair.

Transvaal Attorney-General Mr Don Brunette is in charge of a special task force that is preparing criminal charges against Mr Vermaas.

A motion brought by Mr Vermaas to prevent him from being summonsed to be interrogated in terms of the Insolvency Act was postponed yesterday to March 14.

The court heard there were 661 intervening creditors claiming a total of R107 million from the Vermaas empire, while the total claim could come to R150 million.

Mr Justice Van Niekerk also turned down a "never-say-die" application from Mr Vermaas yesterday that an extension to close a contract to sell Chieflain Aviation Holdings to an overseas buyer be further extended.

Mr Vermaas said the creditors could have been reimbursed from the R155 million he would have received from the sale.

But the judge said there was no concrete information before the court about the deal. — Sapa
TWISTING BRUNETTE'S (H)ARMS

What is Transvaal Attorney General Don Brunette up to? On Monday last week he provisionally withdrew charges of fraud, contravening the Banks Act and contempt of court against Pretoria attorneys Albert Vermaas and Eugene Berg. A week later he reinstated the charges. What happened during the week to explain his change of heart? At the level of public facts, nothing. At the level of facts known by Brunette, apparently a lot.

In the week prior to the dismissal of the charges, the Harms Commission established that Vermaas had over-invoiced to the tune of R80m for planes he was buying from the US. He claimed that they were worth R100m but even his own insurance showed that he only had them insured for R23m. A US business associate of Vermaas, Chuck Rittenberry, testified that only R20m ever made it to the US as payment for planes. A Reserve Bank official said they suspected the missing R80m had been used in the round-tripping of funds.

Brunette’s reasons for withdrawing charges only days after these revelations seem decidedly flimsy:

☐ He couldn’t draw up a charge sheet (an assertion, not an explanation).
☐ He hadn’t had the opportunity to read much of the evidence which had come before the commission. His claim that he was not entitled to request evidence from the commission is not true. The press have done so regularly and Brunette himself has now also exercised this right;
☐ That a “lengthy postponement” of at least six months would be required in order to formulate charges. In the end six days were enough to draw up the 22 fraud charges which Vermaas faces involving sums of nearly R300m. These charges are all based upon information which emerged from the commission in late November or early December;
☐ That Vermaas was using the fact of criminal charges pending against him as an excuse for not testifying in civil proceedings on the grounds that he had the right to avoid self-incrimination. A provisional withdrawal of charges, though, would not have allayed Vermaas’s fears in any way; and
☐ Criminal charges should make way for civil proceedings (liquidation and sequestration applications) and the commission’s hearings. Yet this week Brunette reinstated charges the day before proceedings on all three of these fronts were due to commence.

One can only assume that the flimsiness of this reasoning was brought home to Brunette by Justice Minister Kobie Coetzee when they met last week. Coetze, in fact, has handled matters with great aplomb — he has secured the reversal of a patently bad decision while avoiding major controversy, as yet, over the independence of the Attorney General.
Pik Botha rejects allegations of Vermaas link

By BARRY STREEK
Political Staff

MR Pik Botha yesterday rejected allegations made against him in regard to the Harms Commission investigations and said he could not fulfill his task as Minister of Foreign Affairs if he was presented as a scoundrel.

He also insisted that Mr Jan van Gend, the Progressive Federal Party MP for Groot Schuur, repeat the “allegations” he made in Parliament under oath to the Harms Commission.

But Mr Van Gend said Mr Botha’s challenge was “ridiculous” as everything he said in Parliament was based on evidence already given to the commission.

In a statement yesterday, the PPPP caucus criticised “the disgraceful, one-sided behaviour by the SABC in reporting in isolation” the attack by Mr Botha on Mr Van Gend and said this was typical of the corporation’s bias towards the government.

In his statement, Mr Botha said certain media reports had continued to link the Department of Foreign Affairs and himself to irregularities allegedly committed by people whose activities were being investigated by the Harms Commission.

“Allegations are now being made in Parliament presenting some of my colleagues and myself as scoundrels without the opportunity for us to refute this. I refuse to accept this degradation of my department and myself any longer,” said Mr Botha.

“I emphatically deny the allegations of involvement in irregularities by the department or myself and it is clear to me that there is an orchestrated campaign against us.”

Mr Van Gend said his primary purpose had been to question the withdrawal of the original charges by the Attorney-General of the Transvaal, Mr Don Brunette, against Mr Albert Vermaas.

The intervention of the Minister of Justice had backed his views, Mr Van Gend added.

“I also, in referring to evidence led before the Harms Commission, referred to the undisputed fact that the Minister of Foreign Affairs has had a long-standing friendship with Vermaas and the fact that both the departments of Foreign Affairs and Defence had had business dealings with one of Vermaas’s companies.

“I also referred to the fact that on the very day before the Harms Commission started its investigations, Vermaas approached the Minister of Foreign Affairs and, with the aid of the Minister of Finance, was given an audience by two highly-placed government officials, amongst others Mr Van Greunen from the Reserve Bank,” said Mr Van Gend.

“As it appeared to me, again from the evidence given before the Harms Commission, that Vermaas had a fairly long history of fairly dubious business dealings and had not filed tax returns for many years, I was of the opinion that the government should have exercised more caution in dealing with him.”
Investors angry as Vermaas fails to meet deadline

By MANDY JEAN WOODS

The status of a R155m deal to sell Chieftain Aviation by Pretoria businessman Mr Albert Vermaas was still unclear at the weekend.

Mr Tony Michael, a spokesman for the investors, said the guarantee of payment had not been received by yesterday, although the Supreme Court, Pretoria, was told last Tuesday that it was expected by Friday.

Some investors were now hostile and "quite desperate", he said.

Mr Vermaas could not be reached for comment yesterday.

Mr Michael said: "I spoke to Vermaas on Sunday morning and he told me the guarantee had not come yet and that he was still negotiating with the buyer. He is still confident the deal will come off but I'm not so sure."

Since December, Mr Vermaas has been battling to postpone liquidation and sequestration proceedings against him to conclude the sale which he said would enable him to pay back creditors and investors.

Mr Michael and numerous other investors last month supported Mr Vermaas's postponement request. The Supreme Court, Pretoria, granted a postponement to February 28. Then Mr Vermaas requested a further postponement to Friday, March 3. The judge ruled against the request and the final liquidation and sequestration orders were granted last week.
Inquiry into DET

Top govt official is ‘axed’

Gerrit Viljoen has to go, says opposition

THE Minister of Education and Development, Dr Gerrit Viljoen, should immediately resign following the tabling of the first report of the Van den Heever Commission, opposition parties said last night.

The Conservative Party spokesman on education and development, Mr Schalk Pienaar, said the report demonstrated Dr Viljoen’s unsuitability for office.

Mr Pienaar said Dr Viljoen’s actions during his tenure had been ineffective.

Mr Pienaar said allegations made by the PFP had been proved correct. The party’s insistence on an in-depth inquiry — persistently resisted by Dr Viljoen — had been fully vindicated.

Political Staff

THE Department Education and Training was last night racked by new shocks with the sidelining of its acting director-general Dr Dirk Meiring and the probable early retirement of one of his deputies.

The moves come after the tabling in Parliament yesterday of the first report of the Van den Heever Commission of Inquiry into irregularities in the black education department.

Top officials in the department have been implicated in the investigation.

Reacting to the report, opposition parties last night called for the immediate resignation of the Minister of National Education and Development Aid, Dr Gerrit Viljoen, who announced the latest DET reshuffle.

Former DET director-general Dr Bram Fourie and Dr Meiring were severely criticised by the commission which found that:

- Their purchase of computer-assisted education systems from a company in which Dr Fourie’s son was involved was “throughout irregular and autocratic”.

- There was no doubt that Dr Fourie — who retired last year after evidence was published of the involvement of his son, Willem, in the company Learn Technologies (Learn Tech) — was aware of his son’s involvement, as well as the involvement of his son’s friend, Mr Clive Baron.

- While there was no evidence that Dr Meiring had been aware of the link between Mr Willem Fourie and Learn Tech — and there was also no indication that he would draw any benefit for the purchase — he knew that the relationship between his department and Learn Tech was “irregular” and had told “untruths” about the matter.

Dr Viljoen said Dr Meiring was to be relieved of his post as acting director-general and “placed in a post of appropriate grading elsewhere in the civil service”.

Unspecified steps in terms of the Public Service Act are to be taken with regard to Dr Meiring.

His post of deputy director-general will be filled as soon as possible.

‘Possible action’

Dr Viljoen said departmental steps against Dr Fourie could not be taken as he had already retired, but “in view of the serious nature of the findings of the commission on Dr Fourie, they are being referred to the attorney-general for his consideration”.

Dr J B Z Louw, previously deputy director in the Department of National Education, is the new director-general of the DET.

Another senior departmental official, deputy director-general Mr Jaap Strydom, whose son featured in inquiries concerning printing contracts with the department, has asked to retire because of ill-health.

This would be considered after receipt of the commission’s final report, said the minister.
Govt attacked on corruption

Staff Reporter

THE Gereformeerde Kerk has sharply criticised the government in the light of numerous recent press reports about corruption.

"Corruption is bribery and depravity," said an editorial in the latest issue of the Kerkblad, mouthpiece of the Gereformeerde Kerk.

The church is one of the three mainstream Afrikaans churches, but smaller and more conservative than the NG Kerk.

"God hates bribery," the article said.

A spokesman for the Kerkbode, the NG Kerk journal, declined to comment on the criticism.
Van Gend must testify to Harms or accept statement

From B J Du Plessis MP, Minister of Finance (House of Assembly):

IN REACTION to your report on March 3, on allegations by Mr Jan van Gend, MP for Groote Schuur, in connection with the interview I granted to Mr Albert Vermaas, I wish to place on record my strong objections to certain statements made by Mr Van Gend.

Firstly, I gave Parliament a full statement on the matter. Mr Van Gend therefore has no excuse for not knowing all the relevant facts. If he is of the opinion that I, misinformed Parliament, he should testify accordingly (1969) provides for the Harms Commission.

I saw Mr Vermaas because I have a duty to hear the representations of anyone with a difficulty falling in my broad area of responsibility. I have done it a thousand times and will continue to do so while I hold public office.

When realising the nature of his problem I arranged for him to see the proper person at the Reserve Bank, namely Dr Van Greuning. This is common practice - I have referred countless petitioners whose first reaction was "to see the Minister", to the relevant top officials, and I shall continue to do so.

In fact I have little choice, since many of my statutory responsibilities, particularly those of a technical nature, are either by law explicitly vested in certain senior officials or are formally delegated to officials. Arranging the interview was in any event a completely superfluous step since, without my knowledge, Mr Vermaas himself had already, on the same day, arranged an interview with Dr Van Greuning. Mr Vermaas did not tell me about it. Why did Mr Van Gend ignore this important fact in his statement to the Cape Times?

And, by the way, Mr Van Gend apparently does not even know that Reserve Bank officials are not Government officials! Does he not know that the Reserve Bank is entirely private sector owned?

Secondly, Mr Van Gend states that Mr Vermaas, with the "aid of the Minister of Finance" was "given audience by two high-placed Government officials, among others Mr Van Greuning (sic) from the Reserve Bank." Can Mr Van Gend please tell us or the Harms Commission who the second official (apart from Dr Van Greuning) was with whom I supposedly arranged an interview?

Thirdly, I must strongly object to the inference arising from Mr Van Gend's statement to the Cape Times that I had previous knowledge of the alleged "fairly dubious business dealings" of Mr Vermaas and that I must have known that Mr Vermaas "had not filed tax returns for many years." I find it absurd that Mr Van Gend could come to the conclusion that "the Government should have exercised more caution in dealing with him" (Mr Vermaas) when he himself says that he founded his conclusion on the evidence given to the Harms Commission. If the alleged transgressions of Mr Vermaas only came to light in the course of the evidence before the Commission, how could I have known about the things before I spoke to him on that Sunday - before the Commission began its investigations? Does Mr Van Gend claim prescience regarding alleged fraudulent acts perpetrated by those with whom he may have contact? Or does he expect me to try and establish everybody's bona fides prior to my seeing them? I take it he does not treat his own voters in this way.

I fail to see how I can do my duty without being accessible to the public.

As far as the tax returns of Mr Vermaas are concerned, of which, according to Mr Van Gend's statement, I should also have been aware, he should know that the Income Tax Act (1965) provides for the utmost secrecy with regard to the knowledge and duties of the Commissioner of Inland Revenue. The relevant clause in the Act says the Commissioner "shall not communicate any such matter to any person whatsoever other than the taxpayer concerned or his lawful representative" (emphasis added).

There is therefore no way in which I, as Minister of Finance, should or could have known, prior to the investigation by the Harms Commission, whether Mr Vermaas had filed tax returns or not. Mrs Vermaas says she would be happy if the Minister of Finance were to have access to his or anybody else's income tax files.

As far as I am concerned, I find the continued attempts to link me with Mr Vermaas saga not only contrived but by now also somewhat pernicious. If Mr Van Gend or for that matter anybody else believes he has knowledge of new facts in this connection, I challenge him to give evidence under oath to the Harms Commission.

If Mr Van Gend is unable to do so, he is clearly obliged to accept my account as the truth and to refrain from trying to fix this dead horse.

PW must step down to give the Nats a chance
Corruption thrives under the Nats, says CP

SOUTH AFRICA was experiencing the biggest wave of corruption in its history under the present government, Mr Fanie Jacobs (CP Losberg) said yesterday.

Introducing a debate on his motion that the government be condemned for its inability to ensure clean administration, he said that in any other Western country such a government would have resigned.

It was only because of the NP's arrogance that it was not resigning.

Mr Jacobs said that in only a few months, six commissions of inquiry had investigated alleged corruption in South Africa and across its borders.

"This is the track record of this government."

He said a "cardinal aspect" of the Palla-zolo affair was that a French company's name was being mentioned as having given R25 000 to the NP in East London.

Corruption: Law 'not always adequate'

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY. — Those who attempted to make political capital when the government's attempts to halt corruption and other malpractices did not succeed, should remember that South African society and South Africa's image were the victims of their conduct, the Acting State President, Mr Chris Heunis, said yesterday.

In debate on a member's motion by Mr S P Jacobs (CP Losberg), Mr Heunis said that instead of ridiculing and criticising the government they would be well advised to assist government in its efforts to rid society of the menace of corruption.

"They will also be well advised to refrain from disseminating unfounded rumours which serve only to undermine confidence in our collective ability to manage the public affairs of our country in a fashion which will do us all proud."

The government's efforts in its quest for clean administration were sometimes frustrated or perceived to be inadequate because conduct which seemed morally reprehensible was not always punishable by law.

No civilised legal system could punish on the grounds of suspicions alone, only on tried and tested facts.

Since evil men were ingenious and morally bankrupt, occasions arose where one was faced with the dilemma that existing law and law-enforcement agencies were inadequate to cope with what was perceived as reprehensible conduct.

'Mombudsman' can stop corruption

Political Staff

THE MP for Port Elizabeth Central, Mr John Malcomess, yesterday called for the appointment of an ombudsman as a defence against corruption.

Speaking to a private member's motion on corruption, Mr Malcomess said that while corruption was not peculiar to South Africa, what was different was that no proper machinery existed for investigating and rooting it out.

He said an all-party committee of Parliament should be appointed to investigate steps taken by other countries to combat corruption, particularly through the use of ombudsmen.

Where, he asked, was the government's commitment to clean administration when the state president attacked a commission chaired by a judge of the Supreme Court?

Magnus Malan, and was described in the budget schedule as improvements to a shooting range.

He said the use of Defence Force helicopters for ministerial hunting parties was also mentioned.

Mr Tom Langley (CP Southpansberg) said the national Party was soft on corruption.

South Africans were tired of many things but they were most of all tired of corruption in government.

There had been rumours of irregularities for easily two years before the former minister of manpower and public works, Mr Pietie du Plessis, had resigned.

"It does not help now, after 10 years of P W Botha administration, to speak out against corruption and that it will be root-ed out.

"It is already written on the wall that the NP government is soft on corruption," Mr Langley said. — Sapa.
null
QUESTION

The Minister for Education, on behalf of the Minister for Finance, has asked the Minister for Finance to provide a copy of the financial report for the...
PRETORIA — A senior Department of Education and Training official could not explain a discrepancy in payment to the deputy director-general's son to the Van den Heever Commission in Pretoria on Monday.

Mr. Jan Vermaak, the DPT's director of sports and culture, said he could not explain why Mr. Thinus Strydom was given a 33-day payment for a job he had done in six days.

Mr. Strydom, the son of the deputy director-general, Mr. Jaap Strydom, was contracted to take pictures for the department and he was told to receive R800 a day. — Sapa
CAPE TOWN — Ninety-eight people were prosecuted last year for contravening the Group Areas Act, the Minister of Justice, Mr Kobie Coetsee, said in the House of Assembly yesterday.

In a written reply to a question from Mr Jurg Prinsloo (CP, Roodpoort), he said the figure for 1987 was three.

Ten people were convicted for such offences last year, with a number of cases still being partly heard, and two in 1987.

On January 31 this year, 77 dockets were still with the respective Attorneys-General for consideration.

A total of 31 men had been sentenced to death for rape over the past four years, the Minister of Justice, Mr Kobie Coetsee, said.

Replying to a question by Mr Dave Dalling (FDP Sandton), he said five coloureds and one white had been handed the death sentence for rape last year.

Between 1985 and the end of last year, 21 coloured men, seven blacks and three whites got the death sentence for rape.

No Indian men had been sentenced to death for rape between 1965 and 1988.

Two white, 198 coloured and 445 black youths aged between 18 and 21 were being held in custody as at December 31, 1988, the Minister of Justice, Mr Kobie Coetsee, said yesterday in written reply to a question from Mr Jan van Eck (Ind, Claremont).

A total of 46 white, 568 coloured and 2,669 black youths aged 18 to under 21 years were being held at the same date.

Government advertisements in the media containing messages from the State President had cost R455,653,52 between June 17, 1987 and March 15, 1990, the Minister of Information, Dr Stooffel van der Merwe, said yesterday in written reply to a question from Mr Frank le Roux (CP, Brakpan). — Sapa.
DEFENCE Minister General Magnus Malan today revealed to the Harms Commission details of hunting trips and other involvements with Pretoria attorney Mr Albert Vermaas who faces fraud charges totalling nearly R300-million.

According to evidence before the Harms Commission into cross-border irregularities, Mr Vermaas also owes the Receiver of Revenue R44-million in tax.

In an affidavit handed in to the commission in Cape Town today, General Malan revealed that he and Mr Vermaas had been friends for the past 13 to 15 years because of a "common interest in nature conservation".

General Malan recalled accepting seven invitations to hunt on Mr Vermaas's farm during which he shot a total of six buck, he said in the statement.

Present of good wines

"On each occasion when I went to hunt with Mr Vermaas, I gave him good wines to show my thanks and appreciation. In his turn, during a hunting trip in South-West Africa, Mr Vermaas presented me with a rifle." The rifle had been written up in a register of the Ministry of Defence and would become the property of the South African government when General Malan retired or died, he said.

"I wish to state that Mr Vermaas made a very good impression on me. It is still difficult to believe all the allegations made against him," General Malan said.

"He was a good church man, always calm and brought a great impression of wisdom, one would expect from a great businessman. As an attorney and businessman who was also involved in international trade he made a big impression on me."

On the basis of this opinion, General Malan requested Armacor to consider establishing Mr Vermaas as a director of a new affiliate company and as a result Mr Vermaas was appointed director of Elopotro Pty Ltd for a period of two years.

In November 1988, General Malan told Mr Vermaas that he could not ratify his directorship and his appointment was terminated by the chairman of Armacor, the Minister told the commission.

Expropriation

General Malan recalled seven occasions when Mr Vermaas approached him for help.

When Mr Vermaas experienced problems with the proposed expropriation of his farm Shenandoah, General Malan referred the matter to the appropriate Minister. At the Foreign Affairs Minister Mr Pik Botha had made a statement to the commission about the matter, he said.

Mr Vermaas "was not favouring in any way", General Malan said.

An offer by Mr Vermaas to hire aircraft to the Defence Force was referred to Major General C.J. van Tonder, chief director of Intelligence Operations in the SADF.

In an accompanying affidavit Major-General van Tonder submitted that aircraft were hired from Mr Vermaas's company Chieftain Air for six out of 500 flights during 1987 and 1988.

Sell aircraft

"An offer from Mr Vermaas to supply weaponry and aircraft to the SADF was also referred elsewhere, according to General Malan's evidence. "In this regard I want to emphasise that I never bought any parts, weaponry or aircraft from Mr Vermaas or made any promises in this regard on behalf of the SADF," General Malan said.

General Malan refuted earlier evidence before the commission which suggested that during a hunting trip Mr Vermaas was confident of obtaining a contract to sell aircraft to the government.

"I don't know what he based his confidence on but wish to categorically deny that I made any promises to Mr Vermaas," General Malan said.

Jalc 'pay-offs' to SADF man

By ANDREA WEISS
Staff Reporter

AN SA Defence Force brigadier on a tour of duty to Transkei was given a beach house worth R150 000, the Harms Commission into cross-border irregularities heard today.

Brigadier M.J. Deyzel who was appointed to Jalc by the Department of Military Intelligence, fell from grace when he accepted pay-offs from the organisation.

Jalc was recently investigated by the Harms Commission.

During his four-month tour of duty with Jalc, Brigadier Deyzel was given a beach house in Haga-Haga worth R150 000, had his wife flown down for a party in Bisho in Mr Sol Kerzner's private aircraft, took a free five-day holiday to Mauritius and flew to London at Jalc's expense.

SADF officials said in statements to the commission that Brigadier Deyzel signed an agreement with the SADF that he would avoid obligating the State to Jalc in any way, would not take any Jalc-financed trips and would not leave the country without permission.

TELEPHONE TAPPED

He also agreed to make his findings known only to the SADF.

However, Brigadier Deyzel did not know his telephone conversations with Jalc were being tapped.

In February 1987 Vice-Admiral Andrew Putter, SADF Intelligence Chief of Staff, prematurely ended his six-month term with Jalc.

Brigadier Deyzel was offered the option of retiring or facing a court martial.

(Turn to page 3, col 3)
I — by Magnus Malan

My friend Vermaas and

What Vermaas told the general...
Group Areas Act: exemptions refused

131. Mr S S VAN DER MERWE asked the Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning:

Whether any applications received in 1988 by his Department or any provincial administration for exemptions from the provisions of the Group Areas Act, No 36 of 1966, in respect of business premises were refused; if so, (a) how many persons from each race group were refused permission to occupy such premises in areas reserved for (i) Whites, (ii) Coloureds, (iii) Indians and (iv) Blacks in each province and (b) for what reasons in each case?

Reply substituting reply to Question No 2 on 15 March 1989, put by Mr P H P GASTROW (cel 405):

C R Swart: offences reported

2. Mr P H P GASTROW asked the Minister of Law and Order:

How many cases of (a) murder, (b) culpable homicide, (c) assault with intent to do grievous bodily harm, (d) common assault, (e) rape, (f) burglary of business premises, (g) burglary of residential premises, (h) robbery with aggravating circumstances, (i) robbery, (j) common theft, (k) theft of vehicles and cycles, (l) possession of drugs and (m) dealing in drugs were reported at the C R Swart police station in the Durban police district of the Port Natal Division in 1988?

The MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER:

(a) (b) (c) (d) (e) (f) (g) (h) (i) (j) (k) (l) (m)

64 350 873 975 668 356 937 541 3391 1823 6 18

NOTE: Para (j): since 1 July 1987 separate statistics have been kept in respect of ordinary theft and theft from motor vehicles. A decrease in ordinary theft may therefore be indicated.

Brits: fines for traffic offences

132. Mr A GERBER asked the Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning:

(a) How many citizens of (i) independent Black states and (ii) self-governing territories were fined for traffic offences in the magisterial district of Brits during the latest specified period of 12 months for which figures are available,

(b) in how many cases (i) were the traffic fines that were imposed collected and (ii) could the offenders not be traced and (c) what steps were taken by his Department and/or the authorities concerned to trace these offenders?

The MINISTER OF CONSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING:

This matter vests in the Administrator of Transvaal and he has furnished the following information:

Statistics in respect of the past 12 months:

(a) (i) 3 651,

(ii) 12,

(b) (i) 1 447,

(ii) 1 616.

(c) Letters of demand are sent out. Courts do not issue warrants because the offenders live outside the jurisdiction of the Republic of South Africa.

Abused children: national toll-free service

26. Mr M S BARNARD asked the Minister of Health Services and Welfare:

(1) Whether his Department intends to establish a national toll-free service for abused children if so, (a) when is it to be put into operation and (b) during which hours is it to operate;

(2) whether any persons and/or organizations were consulted before the decision to introduce this service was taken; if so, (a) what persons and/or organisations and (b) when; if not, why not;

(3) whether he has received any representations regarding this service; if so, (a) from whom and (b) what was (i) the purport of each such representation and (ii) his response thereto in each case?

The MINISTER OF HEALTH SERVICES AND WELFARE:

(1) Yes. The Department intends to establish a structured after hour social work service, for crisis cases, by making available a toll-free telephone number to applicants.

(a) It is the intention to introduce the service on 1 April 1989 if all the arrangements can be made timely.

(b) On working days from 1800 to 0600 and on 24 hour coverage over weekends and on public holidays. Hours will be adjusted according to needs.

(2) Yes. The councils of nationally and provincially controlled welfare organisations which render family care services, were informed by letter on 23 December 1988 and were invited to take part in the project. A meeting on the project was held with the welfare departments of the other population groups on 9 January 1989.

—the welfare organisations informed were:

Afrikaanse Christelike Vrouevereniging
Apostolic Faith Mission’s Welfare Council
Dienis van Barmhartighed van de Nederlandse Hervormde Church
Catholic Women’s League
Natal Christelike Vroueveniging
National Council for Child and Family Care
Orange Vroueveniging
Suid-Afrikaanse Vroue Federasie
Sindale Kommissie vir die Dienis van Barmhartighed van:
Western Cape, Eastern Cape, Northern Cape, Northern Transvaal, Southern Transvaal, Western Transvaal, Eastern Transvaal, Natal and the Orange Free State.
The Minister of Law and Order M. [name removed]

Preliminary remarks:

The认真学习需要对整个报告的读取和理解，以下是对其中一些重要部分的摘要。

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The Minister of Development and Consent, Mr. W. C. Ewing, M.P., submitted the following report:

[Text of the report is not fully visible in the image provided.]
Vermaas ‘tried to sell planes to SADF’

By MANDY JEAN WOODS

PRETORIA attorney Mr Albert Vermaas attempted to sell aircraft worth an estimated $35m (R69.25m) to the SA Defence Force about two weeks ago, the Harms Commission heard yesterday.

In a statement, Witwatersrand Command Admiral General Christoffel van der Westhuizen said at Mr Vermaas has been approached for 12 years — said Mr Vermaas had approached him and the beginning of March, claiming to have “sensitive information” which could embarrass the SA government internationally.

“I agreed to meet him and he showed me pictures of aircrafts and helicopters, which had military markings on them and were painted in military colours — which he wanted to sell to the Defence Force.”

Cargos planes

General Van der Westhuizen said he could not identify the aircraft but it was evident some of them were cargo planes. Mr Vermaas said that although he purchased the aircraft in the United States, they had previously been deployed in Australia and South America.

The selling price was $18m and although several contracts with an overseas purchaser — of which one or two were signed — were produced to support his claims, they did not add up to final liquidation of his estate and companies, the deal apparently never went through.

The Harms Commission heard evidence last month that these alleged planes — many of which were ageing former military cargo aircraft and helicopters — were fact not outright by Mr Vermaas but he had merely paid down payments on them.

General Van der Westhuizen said Mr Vermaas told him the purchase price for the aircraft was between $23m and $35m and the money must be paid in Swiss francs. Between $12m and $15m was to be transferred to the US.
MALAN SPEAKS . . . The Minister of Defence, General Magnus Malan, leaves the Ned Geref Synod Hall in the city yesterday after testifying before the Harms Commission. With him is his press secretary Dr D A S Herbst, and behind him is the Deputy Minister of Defence, Mr Wynand Breitenbach.

LOOKING CONFIDENT . . . Minister of Foreign Affairs Mr Pik Botha leaves the Ned Geref Synod Hall in Cape Town yesterday after testifying to the Harms Commission.

Just friends
Ministers give evidence on Vermaas

By Mandy Jean Woods

Public hearings in Pretoria
Phone call made
Pik mention
the R10m issue

By MANDY JEAN WOODS
FOREIGN Affairs Minister Mr Pik Botha said yesterday that had it not been for a phone call from MP for East London North Mr Callie Badenhorst minutes before he was to meet Transkei leader General Bantu Holomisa, he probably would not have discussed “the issue”.

He was testifying before the Harms Commission on his intervention in the dispute between Jalc and the Transkei over an instruction from General Holomisa to withhold a R10m payment for housing deemed inadequate.

Mr Botha said he met General Holomisa on June 8 last year to discuss state matters of mutual concern.

But in view of the call from Mr Badenhorst, and considering Jalc director Mr Chris van Rensburg’s desperation at facing possible bankruptcy, he decided to discuss the matter with General Holomisa at the meeting that day.
(2) (a) which (i) mayors and (ii) town committees and (b) in terms of what statutory provisions and/or regulations they have been granted these powers? B295E

The MINISTER OF CONSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING:

This matter vests in the Administrator of the Cape Province and he has furnished the following information:

(1) (a) (i) (aa) to (1) (a) (ii) (bb)
No. Mayors have no authority to act of their own accord without the approval of the relevant town council committee.

(b) (i) (aa) No. (bb) Yes, but only if it is the property of the local authority.

(b) (ii) (aa) No. (bb) Yes, but only if it is the property of the local authority.

(2) (a) All local authorities established in terms of the Black Local Authorities Act, 1982 (Act 102 of 1982).

(b) Local authorities are in terms of section 23 (1)(b) and the Schedule to the Black Local Authorities Act, 1982 (Act 102 of 1982) read with Proclamation 150 of 1986 and the notice whereby the local authority was established, authorised and empowered to allocate houses and premises.

Local authorities are in terms of section 23 (1)(a) of the Black Communities Development Act, 1984 (Act 4 of 1984) empowered in respect of land of which it is the owner or land which vests in it or has been made available in terms of Section 24 (9) of the Act, to issue a right of leasehold to any competent person as defined in Section 1 of the Act.

The MINISTER OF NATIONAL EDUCATION:

(1) Yes, to the extent that it is a general affair. Provision was made in the National Policy for General Education Affairs Act, 1984 (Act No. 76 of 1984), that general policy may be determined in this regard but it has not yet been done. At present negotiations are under way with a view to establishing a professional council for teachers on the general level.

(2) (a) and (b) fall away as far as registration on the general level is concerned.

Rape: persons convicted

169. Mr D J DALLING asked the Minister of Justice:
How many persons in each race group were (a) charged with and (b) convicted of rape in 1985, 1986, 1987 and 1988, respectively? B404E

The MINISTER OF JUSTICE:

The undermentioned statistics were obtained from the Central Statistical Services and are only available for the periods as indicated.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Total charged</th>
<th>Total convicted</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1984-1985</td>
<td>243</td>
<td>164</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1985-1986</td>
<td>2600</td>
<td>1471</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1986-1987</td>
<td>2600</td>
<td>1471</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1987-1988</td>
<td>2600</td>
<td>1471</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The ACTING MINISTER OF MANPOWER:

(1) Whether his Department is responsible for the registration of teachers in terms of Schedule 1 of the Republic of South Africa Constitution Act, No. 110 of 1983; if not, which Government Department is responsible for this matter?

(2) (a) how many teachers of each population group are registered in terms of current legislation and (b) in respect of what date is this information furnished?

The MINISTER OF NATIONAL EDUCATION:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Population</th>
<th>Total charged</th>
<th>Total convicted</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Whites</td>
<td>225</td>
<td>121</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coloureds</td>
<td>2672</td>
<td>1503</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indians</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blacks</td>
<td>6658</td>
<td>3354</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 July 1986 till 30 June 1987

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Population</th>
<th>Total charged</th>
<th>Total convicted</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Whites</td>
<td>213</td>
<td>122</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coloureds</td>
<td>2744</td>
<td>1518</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indians</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blacks</td>
<td>7407</td>
<td>3581</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(1) Whether any national servicemen were admitted to hospital with infectious diseases in 1988; if so, (a) which hospitals, (b) how many were admitted with each specified infectious disease and (c) how many died of each such disease?

The MINISTER OF DEFENCE:

Yes:

(a) 1, 2 and 3 Military Hospitals and also various sickbays.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Disease</th>
<th>(a)</th>
<th>(c)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Biliary</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hepatitis</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malaria</td>
<td>277</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Measles</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meningitis</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuberculosis</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The MINISTER OF MANPOWER:

(a) How many strikes involving Black workers occurred in 1988, (b) in how many cases did the strikes arise out of wage demands and (c) what were the main causes of the remuneration of the strikes?

The ACTING MINISTER OF MANPOWER:

(1) 363
ABOVE: 10,000 people a year have been convicted of rape in South Africa. More than 13 people a day — over the past four years.

The Minister of Justice, Mr Kobie Coetzee, said yesterday that 10,424 people were charged with rape between July 1987 and June 1988 and 5,243 were convicted.

Between July 1986 and June 1987, 9,639 were charged with rape and 4,984 convicted, between July 1985 and June 1986, 9,056 were charged with rape and 4,593 convicted, and between July 1984 and June 1985, 9,816 were charged with rape and 5,038 convicted.

Mr Coetzee said details in Parliament of the people charged with and convicted of rape. He was replying to a question by Mr David Dalling (PFP Sandton).

In all four years, most of the people charged and convicted with rape were black.

For instance, between July 1, 1987, and June 30, 1988, 2,213 white people were charged with rape and 122 convicted, 2,744 coloured people were charged and 1,518 convicted, 68 Indian people were charged and 227 convicted, and 7,407 black people were charged and 3,581 convicted, Mr Coetzee said.
RESIDENTS in Langa are patrolling the township's streets following the brutal murder by gangsters of a high-school pupil last week.

Mongezi "Bulu" Lugulwana, 19, died after a group of youths alleged to be members of the Nisaraz and Waftela gangs attacked him near his home last Thursday.

The Langa Residents Interim Committee this week called a public meeting to discuss the presence of gangsters in the area.

Street patrols have since been formed and are patrolling each evening between seven and midnight.

Mongezi, a standard-nine pupil, will be buried at the Langa cemetery at 2pm on Saturday, after a service at his home.

Relatives have requested police presence at the funeral out of fear that a fight might break out between gangsters.

According to relatives, Mongezi left home at about 6pm on Thursday. Shortly afterwards, his girlfriend rushed in to report he had been attacked.

Mongezi was already dead when his father arrived on the scene.

He is survived by his parents, Goodwill and Deborah, and a brother, Mxolisi.

Police are investigating the murder. No arrests have as yet been made, said a police spokesperson.
PRETORIA. — Commercial Branch detectives searched several premises here and seized documents, ledgers and books relating to the companies operated by or connected to Mr Albert Vermaas's business affairs.

A police spokesman confirmed that four houses and four offices were searched in the course of an investigation into Mr Vermaas's affairs and certain documents were seized.

The documents seized were handed to the attorney-general of the Transvaal, Mr Don Brunette, yesterday.

Mr Brunette said a team of four senior advocates, who had been seconded to investigate evidence before the Harms Commission concerning Mr Vermaas's activities, would study the documents.

Mr Brunette said that while investigations into the Vermaas case would still take "some time", the seized documents would shed more light on certain aspects of evidence on record before the commission.

The offices of Mr Vermaas's attorney, Mr Terry Mahon of Adams & Adams, were included in a search warrant signed by Pretoria's senior magistrate.

Mr Mahon brought an urgent application in the Pretoria Supreme Court following the police search.

Mr Justice Van der Merwe ordered all parties — Mr Mahon, the Minister of Law and Order, the Commissioner of Police, Captain C F Kitching and Detective Warrant Officer K M Benjamen — to peruse the relevant documents in the presence of the state attorney.

He ordered that contentious documents — those held by Mr Mahon to contain privileged information between attorney and client — could be duplicated and then sealed, packed and indexed in front of both parties before being taken to a place of safety.

Mr Mahon said the documents were privileged between attorney and client.

According to the search warrant, reasonable grounds existed to believe articles at these premises could provide proof of alleged offenses committed on the premises.

Police were instructed to search Mr Vermaas's home at Julius Jeppe Street in Waterkloof, the premises in Main Street, another site in Julius Jeppe Street and one in Aries Street, Waterkloof. — Sapa
Alleged Asvat killers in court

By MARTIN NTSOELENDO

TWO alleged killers of anti-apartheid activist, Dr Abu-Baker Asvat, made their third appearance in a Johannesburg Magistrate's Court this week.

Before PH Bredenkamp were Zakhele Cyril Mbutha, 20, and Thulani Nicholas Dlamini, 21, both of no fixed address.

The case was postponed to May 11 this year, for the Attorney General's decision whether to prosecute in the Rand Supreme Court.

The State alleges that Asvat was shot dead in his surgery in Rockville on January 27, and robbed of R145.

They are also charged with possession of an unlicensed firearm and ammunition.

At the first hearing, Mbutha shocked a packed court as he described how he had twice shot Asvat, with the aim to rob him.

Earlier, Dlamini pleaded not guilty and denied that he knew Mbutha, while on the other hand Mbutha also said he did not know Dlamini.

Mbutha said he shot Asvat twice.

He said a man named Johannes had planned the robbery, and had given him the firearm. Mbutha said Johannes came to the scene of the crime and took R145, which they later shared.

Mbutha pleaded guilty to the charge of murder and robbery.

But the magistrate entered a plea of not guilty on the murder charge.
Suicide victim's conviction set aside

GRAHAMSTOWN. — The conviction of an 18-year-old youth who committed suicide after being wrongly convicted of murder has been set aside by the Appeal Court.

Mr Lungile Bacela and nine other Stutterheim residents were found guilty of murder by Mr Justice A. B. Black in September 1987.

Bacela was sentenced to 14 years in jail, while three others received triple death sentences for the alleged necklace murder of three women accused of being witches and having caused the death of a comrade.

After spending nearly a year in jail, Bacela apparently wrote a letter to his parents in which he told them he was depressed and complained about allegedly being treated badly.

He was found dead in his prison cell in September 1988 and was reported to have hanged himself.

Bacela's lawyers said a post mortem had been conducted on Bacela, without family representation.

They then instructed a Port Elizabeth-based pathologist to conduct a second post mortem.

Even though this was carried out in September last year, the lawyers have not yet received a copy.

The pathologist who conducted the post mortem said he could offer no explanation as to why the report had not been received by the lawyers.

He admitted that once a post mortem had already been conducted, it was very difficult to make a second, "as one can no longer assess the fluids and other things".

It is not known whether Bacela's family is considering taking further steps now that it has been established that their deceased son was wrongfully imprisoned.

Last week the Appeal Court in Bloemfontein set aside the convictions of all ten after finding that they had been wrongly convicted on three accounts of murder and one of arson.

Mr Justice Vivier of the Appeal Court said there were obvious flaws in the court's findings.

He said he was of the view that the state's evidence identifying the individual applicants as members of the mob present at the scene where the crimes had been committed was so thoroughly unreliable that it should have been rejected "in toto" by the trial court.

The trial court had also erred in its approach to the evidence of the applicants.

To adopt a global view of the totality of the defence cases in order to reject the evidence of an individual accused, was not permissible and constituted a serious misdirection, Mr Justice Vivier said.

The three men who were freed after spending 18 months on the death row in Pretoria are Mr Mxolisi Malgas, Mr Michael Mmbukwe and Mr Lulamile Maneli.

- ANA
Vermaas in fraud finding - Harms

Judge slams ex-Minister

The commission of inquiry into the financial affairs of the former Prime Minister, Mr. P.P. van der Walt, has found that the former Minister of Public Works, Mr. J.J. du Plessis, was involved in corrupt practices. The commission recommended that Mr. du Plessis be removed from the cabinet and be charged with corruption.

Mr. du Plessis was accused of receiving kickbacks from contractors and using public funds for private purposes. The commission found that Mr. du Plessis had used his position to influence tenders and contracts in his favor.

In a statement, Mr. du Plessis denied the allegations and said they were baseless. He said he had always acted in the best interests of the country and had not received any kickbacks.

The commission concluded that Mr. du Plessis had acted corruptly and recommended that he be removed from the cabinet and be charged with corruption.

Mr. du Plessis has appealed against the commission's findings, but the appeal has been rejected.

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Political Staff

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Some 5,000 convicted of rape

ABOUT 5,000 people a year — or 13 people a day — were convicted of rape in South Africa in the past four years.

Minister of Justice Kobie Coetsee told parliament that 10,424 people were charged with rape between July 1987 and June 1988 and 5,243 were convicted.

Between July 1986 and June 1987, 9,639 people were charged with rape and 4,984 convicted; between July 1985 and June 1986, 9,056 were charged with rape and 4,593 convicted, and between July 1984 and June 1985, 9,816 people were charged with rape and 5,038 were convicted.

Coetsee provided these details when he replied to a question from the Progressive Federal Party MP for Sandton, David Dalling.
Advocate-General
condemns ex-MP

By BARRY STREEK
Political Staff

THE former Minister of Man-
power, Mr Pietie du Plessis,
has been roundly condemned
by the Advocate-General, Mr
Justice P J van der Walt, for
allowing his son to receive in-
direct advantage from the
state and making serious mis-
representations to the
government.

Mr Du Plessis's son, Johan,
made a cool R6,5 million prof-
it on the sale of a Pretoria
building which he bought for
R21 million, renovated for
R21 million and then leased
to the government despite the
fact that Sanlam had been un-
able to conclude a lease for
the state for the same build-
ing.

Mr Justice Van der Walt,
whose report on the business
dealings of the Du Plessis
family was tabled in Parlia-
ment yesterday, said Mr Pie-
tie du Plessis was guilty of
making serious misrepresen-
tations in trying to obtain im-
proper advantage for Quinto
Diamante, a company which
tried to obtain a diamond
lease in the Port Nolloth area.
The role of Mr Du Plessis, at
the time the former Minister
of Mineral Affairs and Energy
but then the Minister of Man-

power and Public Works, in
requesting that Quinto Dia-
mante's application should
be expedited or should re-
ceive attention "is extremely
suspect and amounts to a rep-
rehensible suppression of the
true facts."

Quinto Diamante's only
shareholder and director was
Mr Theuns van Schalkwyk, an
unrehabilitated insolvent,
who was employed by Mr Jo-
han du Plessis and who assist-
ed Mr Pietie Du Plessis in his

campaign in the last election.
The company was regis-
tered at Mr Johan du Plessis's
business address, but al-
though Mr Pietie du Plessis
knew these facts, he did not
reveal them in his represen-
tations on Quinto Diamante's
behalf to the Department of
Mineral Affairs and Energy.

Mr Justice Van der Walt
said Mr Pietie du Plessis's ex-
planation amounted to a seri-
ous distortion of the true facts
and it would be alarming if
such an approach were com-
mon among ministers.

His actions as a minister
and as an MP indicated "un-
ethical conduct."

However, the Advocate-
General made no recommen-
dations on steps to be taken
against Mr Du Plessis senior
but pointed out that he had
anticipated the findings of
the Advocate-General's inves-
tigation by resigning as a min-
ister and as an MP.

In a statement yesterday,
the Minister of Justice, Mr Ro-
bie Coetsee, said it was ap-
parent from the report that
Mr Pietie du Plessis "has not
rendered himself guilty of
any criminal offence."

Mr Du Plessis dismissed the
report and questioned the
findings regarding him.
Minister's son 'bettered' Sanlam

Political Staff

THE insurance and financial giant Sanlam was convinced that Mr Johan du Plessis, son of ex-minister Mr Piet du Plessis, was in a better position than it to conclude a lease with the state for a property in Pretoria.

This was disclosed yesterday by the Advocate-General, Mr Justice P J van der Walt, in his report into the financial transactions of Mr Du Plessis, senior, and his son.

Mr Justice Van der Walt said that although Sanlam's conclusions were "most certainly subjective", they were "disturbing" and "still indicative of the frustration felt by officials of Sanlam".

More reports — PAGE 6

The comments were made in an internal memorandum by the Property Manager of Sanlam Properties, Mr S H Gerber, to his head office to justify the sale of the Housing Building to Mr Johan du Plessis.

Sanlam sold the Housing Building to Johannesburg Mercantile and Investment Company (Pty) Ltd, which was owned by Mr Johan du Plessis, for R2 136 000.

After it had been renovated, the building was leased to the Department of Education and Training in a contract negotiated by the Department of Public Works and Land Affairs, when Mr Du Plessis, senior, was Minister of Public Works and Land Affairs.

Political Staff

THE Advocate-General, Mr P J van der Walt, yesterday warned government officials to treat gifts and favours from casual acquaintances with "great circumspection".

Entering the new growing public debate about the need for a code of ethics for public officials, Mr Van der Walt said his latest investigations had found that former cabinet minister Mr PTC du Plessis had acted "improperly as a minister" in connection with the affairs of the state in which his son, Mr J P L du Plessis, was involved.

Mr Du Plessis has disputed the Advocate-General's findings which, among others, were that his son had "received improper advantage, this indicates unethical conduct on the part of Mr PTC du Plessis as Minister and Member of Parliament".

"This," said Mr Van der Walt, "brings to the fore the ethical norms applying to the conduct of ministers, MPs and other officials in the state sector."

He raised several issues which he said did not cover all matters which were causing concern.

"It is improper for relatives of an official in the state sector or companies in which such relatives have an interest to conclude contracts with a government institution in which that official has a political or executive post, which carries the possibility that that official has or may have decision-making power in respect of that particular agreement, or is in a position that could influence decision-making in respect of that agreement," he said.

State workers warned against gifts

pictures in the Cape Times
How innocents are damned

The Harms Commission has highlighted the plight of people unfairly tainted by untested evidence before commissions of inquiry.

And there is similar concern in Government circles over commission hearings which cause damage to the reputations of innocent officials.

President P.W. Botha himself voiced his concern in a letter to the Minister of Defence, General Magnus Malan.

Mr Justice Harms deals with the issue in his report on the affairs of Mr Albert Vermaas, the Pretoria lawyer who has been made public enemy number one for handing over evidence that the latter's brother, Dr O.F.M. Vermaas, was involved in a well-documented financial scam.

Vermaas used well-known scam

The high-flying Pretoria financier, Mr Albert Vermaas, used his apparent wealth to luggule the Cabinet Ministers and dump sway investors of investing R100-million in his schemes.

This is the picture of the flamboyant attorney that emerges from the Vermaas report presented to the Commission of Inquiry into State Captures.

The report was prepared by the Department of Justice and handed over to the Harms Commission.

Mr Justice Harms on Mr Vermaas's affairs.

Along the way, he made a profit of R100-million in two years - and investors now stand to lose a collective R177-million which no longer exists.

Vermaas appears to have been involved in a well-documented financial scam.

It is known as the Ponte Shandover over-the-counter investment scheme.

Mr Vermaas paid out R100-million in two years - simply by taking deposits from many people and paying interest on the depositors' money.

Although431 out of 1,000 investors who had dealings with Vermaas from February 1983 to March 1984, the judge has considered allegations of corruption and the possibility of a further investigation.

Avarice

Mr Vermaas did this by offering interest rates of between 40 and 60 percent.

Judge Harms poses a question: How could a well-respected lawyer indulging such dubious schemes, why did he simply not borrow money from banks at rates of around 15 percent and profit from the interest he could generate?

The judge says: "Avarice remains highly conspicuous and incurable."

To arrive at final indemnities, Mr Vermaas will need further evidence.

He will explain his income and assets, and the collectors of the losses resulting from the investments of others involved in the scam.

Vermaas's lawyer, Mr Albert Vermaas, will also explain his income and assets, and the collectors of the losses resulting from the investments of others involved in the scam.

The report also outlines the possible involvement of various departments in the Vermaas matter.

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Hunt is on for R47m missing in bank fraud

A huge operation has been mounted to recover R47 million which went missing in fraudulent deals affecting Trust Bank and First National Bank.

Both banks refused to talk about the scam yesterday, while delicate negotiations went on in West Germany, the US and South Africa.

Banking circles were rocked by the scandal, the second to hit Trust Bank in less than a year.

However, Trust Bank officials are confident that most of the money will be recovered. Criminal charges are, however, expected to arise after three deals which were based on the banking system's clearance vouchers. Warrants of arrest have been issued.

Trust Bank's share price took a mild tumble from 176c to around 156c, but sources say it is unlikely that the full amount will be reflected on the bank's bottom line.

The recovery of a significant amount would avert a battle between the two big banks over final responsibility. Clearance vouchers are used between banks to guarantee payments, and traditionally there is no question about settlement.

**Syndicate**

However, problems could arise when vouchers have been stolen or signatures forged.

The R47 million went missing when three clearance vouchers were presented—one to cover the $19.5 million purchase of a second-hand Falcon 50 executive jet in the US, the second to pay for R18 million worth of Krugerrands, and the third for the balance.

A syndicate is believed to have been responsible for the missing millions, and Trust Bank representatives have flown to West Germany to talk to two former bank officials in Frankfurt.

The aircraft was bought from the US-based National Aircraft Company through a broker and efforts are being made to ascertain whether the deal can be cancelled. In any event, the aircraft is an asset which could be seized.

The Krugerrands are also a tangible asset, and the banks know where they are.

The gold coins were bought from Krugerrand Trading in the Carlton Centre by a man calling himself David Smith. He presented a bank clearance voucher which was accepted by the company after it had ascertained from its own bank, First National, that it was "better than a bank-guaranteed cheque".
Dropping of charges 'a gimmick'

Own Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG. — Mr Justice Louis Harms has strongly criticised Transvaal Attorney-General Mr Don Brunette's decision to withdraw charges against Pretoria attorneys Mr Albert Vermaas and Mr Eugene Berg.

In his report tabled in Parliament last week, he said Mr Brunette employed a "gimmick" which embarrassed the Harms Commission when he unexpectedly dropped the criminal charges.

The commission first became aware of Mr Brunette's action through reports published on February 20, in which Mr Brunette said he dropped the charges to give Mr Vermaas and Mr Berg a chance to testify before the commission. Prosecution was always a possibility and Mr Vermaas and Mr Berg could have declined to answer incriminating questions in any case, said the report.

Mr Brunette's argument that he had not received any information from the commission on which he could base his decision was criticised by the judge.

Mr Justice Harms sent a letter dated December 12 to Mr Brunette asking that Mr Brunette be specifically told "he can phone me if he needs any information about the commission's investigations".

No response was received to the letter but on February 24 — shortly after Mr Brunette met Justice Minister Mr Kobie Coetsee about the matter — a request for information was made by Mr Brunette, Mr Justice Harms said.
R47m bank fraud: Five warrants out

JOHANNESBURG. — Warrants for the arrest of five people believed to be involved in the R47-million Trust Bank fraud exposed last week were issued at the weekend, police said yesterday.

Trust Bank managing director Mr Kobus Roetz said the investigation was proceeding "well".

Well-placed sources confirmed that the money had been sent overseas to various banks in Europe and the United States.

The whereabouts of R19 million worth of Krugerrands — part of the R47 million — was unknown. The Reserve Bank approved that part of the money — believed to be R27 million — be sent out of the country for the purchase of an executive jet, the source said. The deal was subsequently cancelled and the money was sent overseas illegally.

At least one of the suspects — a prominent Johannesburg businessman — has been traced to the U.S.

Whereabouts of the other four suspects — one of whom is a German national — was not yet known.
THE Harms Commission has found that it was purely coincidence that the Defence Force notified controversial Pretoria businessman Mr Albert Vermaas that he had been refused a security clearance on the same day the commission began its hearings.

It also found that although Mr Vermaas used his links with Armscor to create the impression that this was the origin of his wealth, Armscor was innocent of these connections.

Mr Vermaas was appointed a director of Elope (Pty) Ltd, an affiliate of Armscor, on November 1, 1987. This appointment was subject to a positive security clearance from the SADF.

The commission said: “The necessary security was not obtained and on November 10, 1988, Vermaas was informed in writing by the Chairman of Armscor that his appointment had lapsed. The coincidence of the fact that his directorship ended on the day on which the commission began its investigations immediately arose.

“It left the impression that there was a connection.”

This resulted in hearings of the commission in which the chairman, Mr Justice LTC Harms, examined the relevant file.

“The commission is indeed satisfied that there was no irregularity, delay or negligence in the handling of the security clearance and that the negative report was the result of Vermaas’s business activities.”
Vermaas got R135 million ‘illegally’

JOHANNESBURG. — In the 14 months it took the Reserve Bank to take decisive action against Pretoria attorney Albert Vermaas, he illegally collected R135m from “widows and orphans”, earning himself R40m along the way, says the Harms Commission report on Mr Vermaas released on Friday.

Mr Justice Louis Harms found, however, that while there were instances of negligence on the part of Reserve Bank officials, there was no evidence of impropriety.

Reserve Bank deputy governor Mr Japie Jacobs declined to comment on the findings, saying that the matter would probably be discussed in Parliament by Finance Minister Mr Barreng du Plessis this week.

Mr Justice Harms found that Vermaas’s applications to the Reserve Bank were handled in an unsatisfactory manner in that:

● He was allowed to conceal the identity of the foreign buyers of his properties without giving good reasons.

● While extensive documents were given in with the applications it was clear that the documentation was never read, or, if they were read, were never critically appraised.

● The bank neglected to attach proper and effective pre-conditions to the forex authorisations to ensure that goods Mr Vermaas purchased actually came to SA.

● No control measures existed to ascertain if conditions attached to such applications were met.

“The questions arises that if foreign exchange controls cannot be strictly applied does it make any sense to apply them at all?” the report asked.

The Reserve Bank took literally the idiom that the left hand should not know what the right hand was doing, Mr Justice Harms said.

“While the Registrar of Banks was grappling with Mr Vermaas’s illegal bank business, the foreign exchange control division was approving forex transactions and operating as if nothing was wrong,” Mr Justice Harms said.

“This is not to say that the Foreign Exchange Control Division did not know about the Registrar’s investigation. Their point of view was simply that it was none of their business.”

Mr Justice Harms said it was notable that the opinions of top officials in the Foreign Exchange Control Division differed substantially on the workings of control mechanisms.

There were also differences of opinion between the Bank and its agents (commercial banks) in that the Bank believed applications recommended by its agent confirmed the bona fides of the applicant. But commercial banks believed their recommendations did not have any influence on the Reserve Bank’s decision-making.

The report also found that most of the investors whose money financed Vermaas’s extravagant lifestyle, were motivated by the fact that extraordinary returns on investments were paid.

“Greed remains extremely infectious and untreatable,” Mr Justice Harms said.

While the fraud uncovered by the Commission was exceptional, no evidence of corruption was found. What was found, however, was that alleged enrichment and influence uncovered by the commission impressed people no end, he said.

Mr Justice Harms likened Vermaas to Ali Baba saying both had magic words which opened “solid doors” and they got their hands on huge treasures.
Names of 5 fraud suspects released

JOHANNESBURG. — Police yesterday released the names of the five men for whom warrants of arrest were issued at the weekend in connection with an alleged R47m fraud involving Trust Bank and First National Bank.

The men are Johannesburg businessman Mr Stuart Pegg of Sandhurst, Trust Bank senior clerk Mr Götz Guntenhöner of Roodepoort North, Mr Hendrik Weiman of Parkhurst, Mr Harry Williams of Krugersdorp and Mr Keith Greenwood of Berea.

Mr Pegg is said by police to be with his family at a ski resort in the US and the whereabouts of the other suspects are unknown. Mr Guntenhöner flew with Mr Weiman to Frankfurt on March 23.

It is alleged that the signature of a senior Trust Bank official was forged on clearance vouchers — inter-bank documents used to approve cash withdrawals at one bank from an account at another bank — valued at R47m, police said yesterday.

Police said their investigation focused on four transactions: The purchase of a R25.4m Falcon 50 executive jet in the US; Krugerrands worth R19m bought by a Londoner in Johannesburg; uncut emeralds worth R1.024m bought from a Muizenberg firm, and R136,000 allegedly unlawfully transferred from Trust Bank to a private account.
Brunette hits back at Harm
Corruption 'maintained'

By ANTHONY JOHNSON
Political Correspondent

CORRUPTION is the hallmark of the political system and is con-
structed and maintained by the National Party government over
the past 41 years, Professor Samp
tjie Terreblanche said last night.

He said that corrupt practices and attitudes already disclosed are on
such high levels and of such a deep-
seated and ostensibly comprehensive nature that it has to be described
as "structural".

Speaking at an Idasa lecture at
UCT, Prof Terreblanche — a former
key adviser to the government who
now teaches economics at the Uni-
versity of Stellenbosch — said: "The
government cannot get rid of struc-
tural corruption by appointing more
commissions or by placing more laws
on the statute book.

The only way to get rid of struc-
tural corruption is to get rid of the cor-
srupt system. The first prerequisite is
to get rid of the NP government."

Prof Terreblanche said that it is
not possible for the Nationalist
government to get rid of the "corrupt
and exploitative system" it has cre-
ated and has allowed to develop.

"It has sunk too much ideological
capital in it and the leader core has
attained too much vested interest in
its maintenance. The NP depends for
its very existence on the corrupt sys-
tem it has created."

The way in which the NP has re-
structured the political system to
perpetuate its own term of office and
the way in which the bureaucratic
system is often regarded and is oper-
ated as if it were an extended part of
the NP is the most important source
of structural corruption.

As long as the NP remains in
government, the growing internation-
al isolation would in all probability
continue.

Consequently, the stagnation,
creeping poverty, township unrest
and ideological polarisation may be
perpetuated or even get worse.

Prof Terreblanche will speak at the next
meeting of the Sa/Times Executive
Breakfast Club at the President Hotel, Sea
Point, on May 2.
Qwn Correspondent.

JOHANNESBURG. — South Africa's foreign exchange reserves have taken a R650m hammering through fraud.

Reserve Bank deputy governor Mr Japie Jacobs said yesterday that the value of forex fraud cases — discovered by the bank but not yet solved — totalled R650m.

He said: "Those outstanding cases which would have affected forex reserves total R650m."

Forex reserves are only affected by transactions involving financial rands.

Forex reserves declined from R6,14bn in December 1987 to R4,23bn in December 1988, a drop of R1,2bn. This excluded the R100m Afbank case, which alone accounted for a 4.9% loss in reserves in 1988/1989.

Mr Jacobs said the bank was investigating more cases — but those involving the R100m had been handed over to the police.

The largest case being investigated was the case involving former Trust Bank corporate division assistant manager Mr Simon Samuels, 32.

Police deputy CID chief Major-General Jaap Joubert said in earlier reports that the alleged swindle involving Mr Samuels totalled R157m.

Mr Jacobs said most of the cases being investigated by the bank dated from last year. Other cases were the Eskom stocks fraud case said to involve "tens of millions of rands" and the alleged R47m Trust Bank fraud involving businessman Mr Stuart Pegg and four others.

Trust Bank managing director Mr Kobus Roets said he could not confirm a report that Mr Pegg and Mr Samuels were personal friends.

When asked how the investigation into the Samuels case was going, he said: "From what I know it is not going well." He declined to comment further.

Police are keeping a tight clamp on information relating to the Trust Bank case.

It was learnt from sources yesterday that R3m in Krugerrands, allegedly purchased with falsified clearance vouchers (CVs), had been found. More than R18m in Krugerrands and R1m in uncut emeralds were bought with false CVs.

Another R25m, which had been approved by the bank for the purchase of a Falcon 50 executive jet, has been located overseas and frozen by bank investigators.

Mr Jacobs said forex investigations had been hampered because the police had limited resources. "The bank does not have the power to prosecute and convict people. Such cases must be handed over to the police. It is time-consuming following up these contraventions because they often take place overseas and are therefore not so easy to trace."
M&R suspends civils chief

Business Times Reporter

ONE of SA’s most prominent construction men has been suspended, pending a financial investigation of certain contracts.

Geoff Knudsen, executive chairman of M&R Construction & Engineering, has been sidelined by head office while the affairs of his division are examined by auditors.

Murray & Roberts financial director Lionel Bird said the suspension was an internal matter and there would be no announcement.

“We would have made a public announcement only if significant losses had been in prospect for the company. This is not the case,” said Mr Bird.

Biggest

Mr Knudsen is at home while investigators forensically comb the numbers. He could not be reached for comment.

His division is the biggest civil engineering and construction company in SA.

Mr Knudsen is a main board director of M&R and one of the best-known figures in the building industry. He has been regarded as a pillar of the industry.

He is involved in many construction projects, including the building of the Civic Centre to the Cape Sun Hotel.

He has an aggressive marketing approach to tendering and a preference for negotiated contracts.

Vow

Mr Knudsen moved to the Transvaal shortly after LTACombat invaded M&R’s Cape activities, winning the Groote Schuur Hospital contract ahead of M&R.

He vowed then to increase M&R’s market share in the Transvaal, LTAC’s territory. Together with Neil Fraser, his partner in the Cape, he was consciously successful.

In the Transvaal M&R and its subsidiaries have built or are building, among others, the R35-million Development Bank of Africa at Midrand, an R80-million turbine hall for the Kendal power station, a R120-million office block for Sunkorp in Pretoria, a R40-million housing scheme at Alexandra, the R75-million Villiers Warden toll roads and, together with Groves & Billig, the R150-

million Reserve Bank building in Pretoria.

M&R’s construction arm acquired civil engineering group Gillie Mason and control of General Erectors while Mr Knudsen headed the division.

Mr Knudsen recently reshuffled construction management, making Charl van der Merwe, who came from Gillie Mason, managing director of construction and deputy executive chairman of the division. Mr Fraser was seconded to the Building Industries Federation as executive director for two years.

M&R has been one of SA’s top construction companies for almost 20 years, but in the past decade has diversified strumously into industry.

The construction arm is still the biggest single division in the group, turning over more than R1.8-billion and contributing R448-million to earnings before interest and tax of R150-million last year.

In recent years, the industrial division has underpinned the performance of a fast-recovering M&R. But in the next two years, the construction division, with a large and lucrative order book, is expected to make the running, notwithstanding the latest setback.

The fall-out by Mr Knudsen’s suspension has dented a share price which has recently recovered spectacularly (see graph).

Improved

One analyst says the market rating has improved because David Brink’s new management appears to be proving itself. But after the disappointment of a R13.8-million loss under previous management, credibility is fragile. He believes controversy is bound to set the share back, even if losses are not in prospect.

Another analyst said any weakness due only to controversy would represent a buying opportunity in a scrip-starved market.
Council row: 
PA steps in

Kolisang back as mayor of Lekoa after charges laid

By SOPHIE TEMBA

THE Transvaal Provincial Administration has stepped in to try and bring an end to the wrangle within the Lekoa Town Council after the mayor, Samuel Kolisang, was unseated by members of the Soshangne Party.

Kolisang claims he was unseated illegally by a group of councillors who stormed into his office on Wednesday this week, assaulted him and forcibly removed the mayor's car keys from him.

He said his personal and private documents were seized and, when the group were about to push him out of the door, town clerk Nic Louw came to his rescue.

On Wednesday this week, Kolisang brought an urgent application before the Rand Supreme Court seeking to restrain the opposing councillors from taking over the council in his absence.

A charge of assault has also been laid against the group. A spokesman for the Vaal police confirmed that the matter had been reported by Kolisang and was being investigated.

Meanwhile, a member of the Transvaal executive council, Olaus van Zyl, reinstated Kolisang and the deputy mayor, Kate Ngxwana, on Monday this week.

Van Zyl said the councillors did not have the power to remove the mayor or his deputy from their positions before their term of office expired.

He said the group would be warned to allow the smooth running of the council, to return all documents, to vacate Kolisang's office and return his car keys.

Members of the Vaal Council claim Kolisang, who is the leader of the Vaal Residents' Representative Party (VRRP), was ousted from his position as mayor by a vote of no confidence.

They said Jacob Selebalo was elected acting mayor after he and about 28 other councillors crossed the floor from the VRRP to the Soshangne Party.

Kolisang said the council had abandoned three monthly meetings because of conflict in the chamber and because members disrupted proceedings.

"A lack of procedural understanding and a power-struggle is the source of the present conflict between the councillors serving on the local authority," he said.

"They believe that the local councillors are power-making bodies and forget that they are to abide by the Act and constitution that govern them.

"They also overlook the fact that the council is controlled by the decisions taken and minuted by them at their meetings.

"These are common problems in the Vaal and councillors - especially the young ones - have no confidence in the older councillors and are the people who tend to overturn the applecart."
R650m frauds:

Where are our moral standards?

The extent of foreign exchange frauds in the past year is not yet known but we do know that probably half the loss during 1988 of the country's gold and foreign currency reserves, its accumulated national treasure, can be attributed to fraud. Theft did us more harm than sanctions.

The disclosure last week that frauds cost us R650 million in foreign reserves — not quite as much as we paid off our foreign debt, but a sizeable sum anyway — has made nonsense of the theories put forward last year to explain why the national treasure was draining away.

Leave aside the fact that these frauds were of a magnitude to dwarf all the others put together — muggings, all thefts, all car thefts, all armed robberies, all bank robberies, all dud cheques — and ask instead the question that hovers constantly in South African minds these days: What has happened to the moral standards of South Africans?

Tax collector Clive Kingon, desperately contemplating the equally vent the trial of six men accused of murder in Namibia.

When the law against murder is made subject to the judgment — or prejudice, or caprice, or malice — of one elected official, it is vain to talk of a government under law. In a real sense, there is no law.

Other laws besides the law against murder go unenforced. Some are simply so bad, like the pass laws, that they cannot be enforced, and must in the end be repealed. Others are simply too difficult, or costly, to enforce. At first, government tried to overcome the problem by giving officials discretionary powers to "regulate": but that doesn't work any longer, and the escape mechanisms become increasingly bizarre.

As the law weakens, so does convention, and the concern for the decent appearance of things is lost. The Harms Commission has found that neither the Defence Minister nor the Foreign Minister, each of whom accepted a hunting rifle as a gift from Wessel Albertus Vermaas, did anything wrong.

DIAMOND WORLD
WE BUY OUR RIGHT OR SELL FOR COMMISSION BASIS
WE BUY OUR RIGHT OR SELL FOR COMMISSION BASIS

DIAMOND WORLD
Trust Bank fraud case: Focus shifts

Own Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG. — The focus of police investigations into the R47-million Trust Bank fraud has shifted from former Info agent Mr. Stuart Pegg to the lesser-known Mr. Hendrik Welman, with police disclosing that three of the warrants issued last week were for Mr. Welman's aliases.

Mr. Pegg said in an interview in yesterday's Sunday Star that he merely acted as an agent in the allegedly fraudulent R27-million bid to buy an American aircraft and alleged that Mr. Welman had masterminded the deal.

Mr. Welman is believed to be in West Germany, along with his co-suspect, former Trust Bank chief clerk Mr. Gert Güntherhomer.

Trust Bank managing director Mr. Kobus Roet is said yesterday that efforts to retrieve the R47 million, obtained through the fraudulent issuing of bank clearance vouchers, are centered on Mr. Welman.

Police were making encouraging progress, Mr. Roet said, adding: "I am sure we will have some good news soon."

Witwaterand police liaison officer Col. Frank Malherbe said yesterday that Harry Williams and Keith Greenwood were aliases used by Mr. Welman.

In an earlier statement police alleged that Greenwood, of Ponte City, Berea, acted as a go-between for a Londoner, David Smith, in the purchase of more than R1 million in uncut emeralds, of which there is a world shortage.

The police also alleged that Harry Williams, of Krugersdorp, operated a business in Norwood called Harry Williams Import and Export Company and that R120 000 was transferred unlawfully from a Trust Bank account into his account. The money has subsequently been transferred out and its whereabouts are unknown.

Col. Malherbe said R2 million in cash and Krugerrands had been recovered.

Mr. Pegg was reported yesterday to have protested his innocence and promised to return to SA before the end of this month. He denied that funds from the cancelled aircraft deal were transferred to bank accounts in his name in Luxembourg and Switzerland.

Mr. Pegg reportedly claimed he earned $100 000 (R253 000) commission from the National Airways Corporation for his part in the deal. This, he said, had been deposited in his account in SA.
Extent of forex fraud ‘appalling’

Own Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG. — Economists were shocked at the extent to which fraud hit SA’s foreign exchange reserves last year.

They described as "astonishing" and "appalling" Reserve Bank senior deputy Governor Japie Jacobs’s disclosure last week that fraud knocked the reserves by R650m. The figure is more than 50% of the R1,2bn decline in reserves in 1988.

Volskas economist Adam Jacobs said the prevalence of this crime had the potential to make an economist’s life very difficult.

"Projections of interest rates, exchange rates and inflation depend on one’s estimate of the reserves. Obviously, one cannot try to estimate how much capital will be lost through fraud. It becomes very difficult to sketch an interest rate scenario when fraud is a major factor determining foreign reserves."

"But this is a crime that affects the country as a whole, every man in the street, and it can only be reduced to a minimum by tightening controls and making punishment as severe as possible."

However, Standard Bank economist Nico Czyponka did not agree with this solution.

"The real problem is the existence of exchange control regulations and clearly these are not working. The answer is definitely not an increase in the num-
CAPE TOWN — The number of sex-related crimes increased significantly last year, with indecent assaults increasing by 50.54%, from 1,298 reported cases in 1988 to 1,951.

This is disclosed in the annual report of Commissioner of Police Gen Hennie de Witt, tabled in Parliament.

The report states that apart from "prostitution-related crimes", there was an "alarming increase" in "moral-ity crimes".

It was not know, however, whether this was due to a higher incidence, a higher report figure, or both.

Morality crimes include crimes against children.

The commissioner reports that serious crime showed an increase of 0.37% in 1988 but was still 2.2% lower than in 1986.

In 1987, 1,418,447 cases were reported, of which about 55.81% were solved.

In 1988, there were 1,423,763 cases of which 56.93% were solved.

The report says crimes against property, such as housebreaking and theft, and robbery, decreased, while the most common crimes of violence — murder, rape and serious assault, but not robbery — increased.
Sex crimes on the increase, police chief says

Political Staff

The number of sexually-related crimes increased significantly last year with indecent assaults increasing by 50.54% from 1,296 reported cases to 1,951.

This was disclosed in the annual report of the commissioner of police, General Hennie de Witt, tabled in Parliament yesterday.

The report stated that apart from "prostitution-related crimes", there was an "alarming increase" in "morality crimes", although it was not known if the increase was due to a higher incidence or merely as higher report figure, or both.

Morality crimes included crimes against children.

The statistics tabled by the commissioner show:

- Indecent assault cases rose by 50.54% from 1,296 to 1,951.
- Prostitution and related crimes dropped by 24.11% from 253 to 192.
- Cases of sodomy increased by 22.95% from 562 to 691.
- Cases of incest increased by 13.21% from 159 to 180 and
- Cases involving intercourse with a girl under the prescribed age, and/or a female imbecile, were up by 17.02% from 423 to 495.
Trend towards soft targets, says report

Terror incidents up last year — De Witt

By Alan Dunn, Political Staff

CAPE TOWN — The revolutionary climate in South Africa was still unacceptably high, the Commissioner of Police, General Hennie de Witt, said in his annual report tabled in Parliament yesterday.

His statement was interpreted by well-placed observers last night as a plea for the continuation of emergency regulations.

Radical elements had in spite of the state of emergency occasionally succeeded in disruptions last year, his report said.

Terror incidents increased last year compared with 1987, and there was a marked trend towards "soft" (civilian) targets.

General de Witt said, however, that it was clear police and other security forces had succeeded in countering the so-called "military onslaught" of revolutionary organisations.

"It has become clear to the ANC, the UDF and their sympathisers that they will not be able to force South Africa and its peoples to their knees by means of violence."

Their emphasis had shifted, therefore, to increased political activity of which intimidation and other forms of extortion were unfortunately still an important element "against which an effective counter-measure is still in its development stages."

Visible violence last year had not reached proportions predicted, in spite of threats of a bloodbath before the municipal elections.

Statistics General de Witt cited in his report included:

- 80 policemen killed on duty.
- Serious crime was 2.37 percent higher than in 1987, involving 1 433 763 crimes, 57 percent of which were solved.
- 819 white rape victims were reported last year, and 18 549 black.
- There were 125 571 grievous assaults and 94 infanticides (up 13 percent on 1987).
- Breaking into business premises totalled 49 687 (down 7 percent), housebreaking in white suburbs 88 396 (down 36 percent from 140 835 incidents in 1987) and 44 131 housebreakings in black areas.
- Robberies with aggravating circumstances numbered 25 841, other robberies 19 905.
- Dagga with a street value of more than R595 000 000, almost a million kilograms, had been seized or destroyed.
- 15 560 people were arrested for dealing or possession of dagga, 987 people had been arrested for dealing in Mandrax, 20 for dealing in cocaine and 26 for dealing in LSD.
- Police had seized almost 16.2 million litres of liquor and charged 238 nightclubs for liquor offences, and illegal liquor trade netted 9 435 alleged offenders.
- Police charged 26 gambling houses, confiscated 313 machines, arrested 99 Fab-Foe bankers and 154 runners, charged 42 sex shops and arrested 70 people linked to them, charged 31 brothels and arrested 42 suspects in this connection.
- Police picked up 1 530 prostitutes, arrested 282 hotel prostitutes, charged 26 massage parlours and 66 escort clubs.
- Police issued 123 465 firearm licences last year, refusing 7 391.
- More than 7 500 firearms were reported missing, 3 400 recovered and 2 000 people declared until to possess firearms.
Taxman orders probe into MPs

By TOS WENTZEL

THE Commissioner of Inland Revenue has ordered an inquiry into the tax affairs of MPs because a number have allegedly not fulfilled their commitments.

Regional Inland Revenue officers will also have to give information to the commissioner on specific MPs who have shares in big companies.

The leakage of the instruction by the Commissioner of Inland Revenue, Mr. Clive King, to receivers of revenue around the country has sparked a major row.

The details first appeared in the magazine Financiers et Techniciens, which was threatened by court action in the form of an interdict by the Minister of Finance, Mr. Barred de Fries, who has delayed publication for a week.

The inquiry is understood to have been launched as a result of the taxman being criticized for not being on top of major scams such as the Kornitz affair.

And claims have been made by the Leader of the Opposition, Mr. Carteri, that special allowances in MPs' secretarial work have been abused.

Mr. King said today that he had "absolutely nothing to say about the issue," and Mr. de Fries said he did not know and was not allowed to know about the investigation because of the confidentiality of the actions of the commissioner or was protected by law.

"He is not supposed to say what he has never discussed with me," Mr. de Fries said.

BROAD POLICY

"We in government have discussed such matters of broad policy with me," Mr. Carteri said.

"In this case it is simply a matter of the courts acting on a matter of law that this is not a public figure," Mr. de Fries said.

Mr. de Fries said he believed the administration of tax should never be politicalized by involving the political head of the department in anything but broad policy determination.

"I would like to see confidentiality of our tax system preserved not only as far as it involves personal tax information but also in so far as it involves instructions from the commissioner to his receivers, because unless this confidentiality is protected all efforts to eradicate tax avoidance and even tax evasion will be thwarted," Mr. Harry Schwartz, MP, Democratic Party finance spokesman, said MPs should be treated in the same way as any other taxpayer, receiving special attention or favour.

Instead of special investigations the issue should be looked at from another angle - all public representatives from MPs to Cabinet ministers should publicize their financial interests.

"Cool, showers..."
Citizens, police partners in crime prevention — colonel

By CLIVE SAWYER
Tygerberg Bureau

CRIME prevention in commerce and industry is primarily the responsibility of the private sector, according to police security expert Colonel Johan Gijbers.

He told about 60 members of the Tygerberg Chamber of Commerce the police did not exist in isolation from the population, and that private citizens must act in partnership with the police in safeguarding their property.

"The police are the public and the public are the police," Colonel Gijbers said.

"An experimental business watch project in Johannesburg, subsidised by the Witwatersrand Chamber of Commerce and Industry, had been a great success."

The business watch operated from offices paid for by the chamber and mounted regular foot patrols of pairs of constables in a limited area.

Robberies, bag-snatching, shop-lifting and car thefts had all declined dramatically in this area.

Businesses should use strict internal control systems to assist crime detection, Colonel Gijbers said.

In reply to a question, he said security forces had stabilised the situation in the country since the start of the state of emergency but it had not yet been "normalised."

"There is still a high revolutionary climate and unrest incidents peak around certain dates on the revolutionary calendar, so the police still need to break the revolutionary hold on the masses."

Asked why certain extra-parliamentary organisations were still allowed to operate, Colonel Gijbers said it was not a crime to disagree with the government.
GANG RAPE HORROR

By SAMKELO KUMALO

GANG RAPE, one of the most serious developments in modern crime, is on the increase and seems to be increasing in the townships.

Besides the general increase in the incidence of rape over the past two years, rapists frequently use vehicles to pounce on their unsuspecting victims and abduct them, taking the helpless women to isolated places where the crimes are committed.

Rapists have also been known to watch houses where women live alone or are alone at certain times of the day.

They attack with the intention of raping the women and then stealing from them after threatening their victims with more physical violence.

Recently City Press published a report on an elderly woman who was gang-raped by thugs who broke into her house in the middle of the night.

Her two sons, who normally live with her, had gone out for the night and were to return the following morning. The attack indicated that the thugs knew she would be on her own during that night.

The gang raped the elderly woman, leaving her unconscious after the attack, and ransacked her house. A neighbour who attempted to come to her rescue was stabbed to death.

However, police said they had no knowledge of this new trend in rapes and said no reports of cases of women being abducted and raped had been received.

Last month six high school girls from Orlando East alleged in a City Press report that they had been abducted and taken to several hideouts in Mofolo, White City and Dube where they were gang raped.

A crack police squad led by Lieutenant Andre Vorster of the Orlando Police Station was activated to hunt the mobile rapists.

One girl was lucky enough to escape when the rapists attempted to force her into the boot of a car.

However, no arrests have been made yet.

It appears that school children are not the only potential victims of the rapists. Last October a 32-year-old married woman was gang-raped in Soweto by eight or nine men after she had been threatened with a knife and abducted from her car in Mondeor.

The men allegedly drove to Soweto, where they were joined by a number of others, and later drove to the Orlando Power Station where they took turns in raping her.

According to information received by City Press the rapists, who usually travel in a group of about eight men, drive about in a mini-bus picking up women and later take them to a quiet place where they are gang-raped.

A Soweto police spokesman, Lieutenant-Colonel Fanayana Zwane, said the police were not aware of vehicles being used in the abduction of women or for the purpose of raping them.

"What I can confirm is that something like that did happen in the past, but it was one isolated incident of rape where vehicles were used to abduct women.

"I can also add that rape has increased during the past two years. This shows that rapists are out in force.

"In 1987, according to my statistics, 1,476 women were raped in Soweto while last year the number jumped significantly to 2,059. This is a serious matter and the police are doing something about it."

Incensed by the frequency of rapes, rape victims have allegedly formed an armed vigilante group to counter the violence against them.

Although no details could be obtained about who the women involved were or how they had grouped themselves, it is believed that the majority of them are rape victims.

They were reported to have launched a manhunt for the men believed to have been their attackers.

Acting on information about the alleged rapists they began visiting shebeens in Orlando East.

In January this year the women allegedly visited a shebeen and opened fire on a man they believed was a rapist.

After shooting him, they made it clear to the patrons that the shooting was in response to a gang rape in Soweto in which some women had been abducted and raped.

Two alleged rapists have been killed in shebeens in Orlando East since the "Amazonas" began hunting down the men they believe are rapists in February this year, opening fire on them and killing them.

A number of shebeens were later visited in an attempt to gather information about other rapists who had allegedly dodged the women's dragnet.

The act was repeated at another shebeen, where a man was left lying in a pool of blood. The women then drove away on another hunt.

Their actions have left the Soweto community shocked.

It is believed that the female hit squad was formed some time late last year after a group of men, who were prowling the streets in a white vehicle, abducted nine women and sexually assaulted them in open veld near Meadowlands in Soweto.

It appears that rapists should prepare themselves for a two-pronged attack.

On one side are the police, who have vowed to make their lives a misery, and on the other side are the women. Although they have kept their activities a secret, they are nevertheless a force to reckoned with.
Vermaas assets ‘R153m’ short

Own Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG. — Pretoria attorney Mr Albert Vermaas’s liabilities exceed his assets by R153.8m, the liquidators of his estate said in a letter to creditors sent on March 31.

The figures are derived from unaudited book values and estimated realisable values.

“We are not in a position to indicate whether there will be a dividend at this early stage, as all transactions relating to the assets and liabilities of Vermaas must be investigated,” the letter says.

“This is emphasised with respect to the potential claim from the Receiver of Revenue to an amount of R15m and the effect thereof on any amount distributable, if any, to other creditors.”

The book value of Mr Vermaas’s single largest asset — affiliate companies in Verco Holdings — is R104 581 629, but it has no estimated realisable value.

Other book value assets which have no realisable values are a R36m investment in Eurobank, 160 shares each in Eurotrust and Reef Acceptances and the WA Vermaas & Co capital account of R107 785.

Loans and liabilities (book value and realisable value) is given as R261.3m.

Mr Vermaas’s game farm Sebaka has a book value of R700 000 but a realisable value of only R300 000; his home has a book and realisable value of R230 000; his luxury cars and boat a book value of R1 500 000 and a realisable value of R750 000.

The letter notes that the liquidators are negotiating with the Reserve Bank with a view to re-leasing the assets it has attached. According to documents handed in to the Master of the Pretoria Supreme Court, agents for Mr Vermaas’s deposit-taking scheme received very large commissions on investors’ monies.

The documents show that Mr Vermaas generally offered interests of between 40% and 60% and investors were usually paid about 20% of that with the agents taking the balance as commission.

A printout of computer records showing investors’ names, the amount of the investment, rate of interest paid and the names of the agents who received commission on the investments and the percentage interest they received was handed in during the first meeting of Mr Vermaas’s creditors.

In the case of Sentra-Oes, for example, eight agents were paid commission totalling 40.2%, more than double the interest received by the investor, Sentra-Oes.
Crime has increased sharply in 4 years

Crime in South Africa had risen by "unacceptable dimensions" in the past four years and the police were having to tackle it with limited manpower and heavily restricted funds, said Law and Order Minister Mr. Adrian Vlok.

However, in extremely difficult circumstances, the police had persevered and had succeeded in "stemming the flood".

He said that while violent crimes such as murder and rape continued to increase, serious crimes — including serious theft and burglary — had declined.

Less serious offences had increased by 22.8 percent, though the rate of success in solving them was nearly 100 percent.

Drugs remained a big problem. Police information indicated that South Africa was the largest market south of the Sahara for certain dangerous drugs.
CRIME in South Africa had risen by “unacceptable dimensions” in the past four years and the police are having to tackle it with limited manpower and heavily restricted funds, said Minister of Law and Order Mr Adriaan Vlok in Parliament this week.

However, under extremely difficult circumstances, the police had persevered and had succeeded in “stemming the flood.”

He said during debate on the law and order budget that while the situation remained worrying, progress was being made.

While violent crimes such as murder and rape continued to increase, reported serious crimes — including serious theft and burglary — had declined and the overall percentage of serious crimes solved had increased by 6 percent between 1986 and 1988.

Less serious offences had increased by 22.8 percent, though the rate of success in solving them was nearly 100 percent.

Mr Vlok ascribed the rise in crime to various factors, including the widespread unrest and violence, high unemployment and other socio-economic factors in the community.

Drugs remained a big problem.

Mr Vlok said information available to the police indicated that South Africa was the largest market south of the Sahara for certain dangerous drugs, such as Mandrax.

Cocaine, which was until recently relatively unknown in South Africa, had also appeared on the drugs market.

South Africa’s relative economic progress in the African context made it an attractive market and it was “relatively easy” to import drugs.
Harms warns about corruption hysteria

PRETORIA. — The hysteria about corruption in South Africa is exaggerated, says Mr Justice Louis Harms.

He told the Afrikaanse Sakekamer here that the point was often made that the three judicial commissions held in the past three years was evidence of the decay of South African society.

Mr Justice Harms said that the fact that his commission had given birth to two more was coincidental and there were technical reasons for it.

He added that the hysteria about corruption made a person think about the hysteria over other issues, such as child maltreatment and molestation, rape, drugs, AIDS, mini-buses and oil pollution.

He said that during these emotional waves everybody wanted drastic and even draconian steps to be taken to prevent and eradicate the problem.

Although people were acting with the best intentions, they should be careful that the wave of emotion did not overwhelm them. — Sapa
R47-m SA swindle: Arrests in UK, Geneva

The Argus Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG. — In a breakthrough in the R47-million Trust Bank swindle, police in Switzerland and Britain arrested a prominent South African-based businessman not previously named in the case, and two more suspects.

Johannesburg commercial branch chief, Colonel Daantjie le Roux, confirmed last night that Sandton commodities broker Mr Niko Shefer was arrested by Swiss police in Geneva yesterday at the request of the South African Police. A warrant for the arrest of Mr Shefer was been issued in South Africa.

Also caught up in yesterday’s drama was former Trust Bank clerk Mr Gotz Gunthonen, who was arrested by Scotland Yard detectives in a London hotel.

Colonel le Roux said that Mr Gunthonen, a West German citizen, be returned to his homeland, South African Police would request West German authorities to prosecute him there.

A third suspect was arrested by Scotland Yard, but on an unrelated charge. He is a Mr Scott who allegedly ordered and collected Krugerrands worth R17-million which are now missing and for which South African police have launched a search.

Send back

Colonel le Roux said South Africa authorities would be requested to send Mr Shefer back to South Africa.

The breakthrough was made after intensive investigations by Colonel le Roux and Major "Kraggles" Deans, also of the John Vorster Square commercial branch.

Mr Shefer is a prominent Bryanston, Sandton, commodities broker and an international businessman who has extensive commercial links throughout Africa and other parts of the world.

Detectives are still trying to trace more than R1-million worth of emeralds and R17-million in Krugerrands also bought with funds obtained fraudulently from Trust Bank.

Police confirmed they had telefaxed a warrant of arrest for Mr Shefer, a Colombian/Israeli, to Switzerland.

Real brains

The drama comes after weeks of intensive investigations by Colonel le Roux and Major Deans. Police believe that by making these arrests they now have the real brains behind the swindle — one of the biggest in South Africa.

Commercial branch detectives had been aware of Mr Shefer as a suspect for some time but did not have the necessary proof to have a warrant issued for his arrest.

It is learned that Mr Shefer was due back in South Africa last Saturday from Geneva, where he was staying with a girlfriend, by whom he has a child, returned without him. Police were waiting at Jan Smuts Airport but she was not arrested and was allowed to go.

Mr Shefer, whose father owned a farm in Colombia, South America, has dealt extensively in diamonds and emeralds in the past. His contacts are believed to extend to Cabinet level in several Central African countries, all of which officially denounce trade with South Africa.
Criminal violence on the increase
Public money wasted on ‘harmless dissidents’ – MP

The government was fond of talking about security and even fought elections over that issue – but its record of protecting citizens against crime, particularly ordinary crimes, was pathetic, Tian van der Merwe (DP Green Point) has said.

“Crimes of violence, such as rape, robbery and murder, are today a much greater threat to a much greater number of South Africans than political violence,” he said in a debate on the law and order budget vote in Parliament.

“The statistics bear this out overwhelmingly and news reports show it clearly, even though bombings and acts of terror are probably more newsworthy.”

Van der Merwe said a major cause of the government’s failure in combating violent crime was its own political vanity.

“It is more glamorous, so it would appear to them, to indulge in a show of strength and power against political opponents – legal or illegal – than to perform the patient, persistent job of crime prevention.”

The evidence was there for all to see.

“Whenver there is a political protest or the possibility of a march by people who wish to challenge the government, police – and sometimes SA Defence Force personnel – are brought in by the truckload.

“When two people are stabbed to death on the platform of Woodstock Station, there is no policeman to be found for miles.

“If the government feels it can placate the rightwing with a cross-border raid of little security significance, they always find enough personnel but, when the ordinary uniformed branch is hopelessly understaffed and elderly people particularly are exposed to vicious criminals, the government pleads poverty,” he said.

“Within the police force the crime prevention people are over-worked, while those who operate in the political field sometimes sit around waiting to pounce on the next harmless dissident.” – Sapa

Tian van der Merwe is a member of the recently formed Democratic Party (DP) – an amalgamation of the old Progressive Federal Party, the Independent Party and the National Democratic Movement.

The DP is at present led by a three men – one from each of the old groups.
Streets of fear and death

By SAMKELO KUMALO

A WAVE of mysterious killings has alarmed the residents of Dobsonville's Extension One.

The bullet-riddled body of 39-year-old Lazarus Tumahole was found by neighbours last Wednesday morning.

According to police, he was shot at his home between 8.30pm and 9.00pm on Tuesday.

A young man, Thabang Kwele, was also fatally gunned down last Monday.

This time last year a physical fitness fanatic, Moses Dithopho, was attacked in the street by unknown people while he was out jogging.

A few hours after the attack, Dithopho's family found him unconscious at the Lenontong Hospital. He died the following day and his attackers have never been brought to book.

Some months ago two teachers were attacked and one was fatally stabbed. A divorced woman had previously been assaulted and stabbed to death in her home.

The string of killings has brought the growing community to its feet.

Piecing together the mysterious death of Tumahole, City Press found out that he left his place of employment in Johannesburg after work on Tuesday and went to a temporary teaching job he held during the evening at City Deep Centre.

According to his wife, Tebogo, some of his students brought him home by car “perhaps to fetch a lawn mower he had borrowed from one of them during the weekend”.

“The students left him while he was letting himself into the house and that was the last time he was seen alive.”

Tumahole's wife, who is completing a masters degree thesis in Social Planning and Administration through the University of Cape Town, was not at home as she had arranged to spend the evening with her parents in another part of Dobsonville.

Between 8.30pm and 9.30pm Tumahole's neighbour saw a combi in the street with its hazard lights on. The neighbour went to check whether they could expect visitors.

Peeping through the windows, she saw a man leaning against her neighbour's front door while Tumahole was apparently opening it.

The neighbour said she heard a number of shots as she was turning away from the window but did not know where they had come from.

She went to wake her son, who was asleep at the time, but when they went outside the combi had gone.

When the neighbour's family went out that night they noticed that Tumahole's front door was ajar but did not see his feet sticking out.

It was only the next morning that one of the neighbour's sons noticed that the door was still open and saw the feet sticking out.

They called Tumahole's best friend and next-door neighbour, Paul Mathunya.

A police search of the house revealed that nothing was missing.

The family later discovered that Tumahole's electricity had been switched off from the street, making hiswife suspect that the attacker knew he would be alone.

The neighbour said she had noticed that Tumahole was holding a lighted candle in his hand when he opened the door.
Democratic Party spokesman on Justice, Mr Ray Swart, said the circumstances in South Africa meant the death penalty "must be reviewed" and he urged Mr Coetsee to appoint a commission to do so.

He said "staggering" 1000 people had been executed in South Africa since 1980.

Mr Swart said: "I want to submit that at a time when we are at pains to show our own community and the international community that we are upholding civilised standards, the high incidence of executions gives credence to claims that we are a primitive society with primitive justice."

"Mrs Helen Suzman (DP, Houghton) called for a commission of inquiry into the deterrent effect of the death penalty in South Africa."

Mr Peter Mopp (LP, Border), who believed the death penalty "must go", suggested as "an interim measure" that judges be allowed to use their discretion in deciding when to use the ultimate sentence.

However, Mr J H Scheepers (NP, Vryburg) said the death sentence should be retained because the majority who were in favour of it could not be ignored.

Mr P C McKenzie (LP, Bonteheuwel) said capital punishment ought to be reviewed "because the majority of the population felt 'they are being dealt with by a court without having the means to influence the legislation". 
Something about it

... and doing

STATION OF EARTHS' TRENDS HELPED BY THE SPACE, THE OTHER WAYS

Toro young to shave, old enough to tick a knife

Chimp's going out of gang pattern
The Minister of Education and Culture

To: The Minister of Education and Culture

Date: November 15, 1989

Subject: The Evaluation and Improvement of the Education System

Dear Minister,

I am writing to discuss the ongoing evaluation and improvement of the education system in our country. The purpose of this evaluation is to ensure that our education system is effective, efficient, and responsive to the needs of our citizens.

Firstly, I would like to highlight the importance of our education system. It is crucial for the development and growth of our country. A strong education system helps to prepare our youth for the workforce and to become productive citizens.

Secondly, I would like to share some of the challenges we are facing. One of the main challenges is the lack of funding. The budget for education has been steadily decreasing over the past few years, which has led to a decrease in the quality of education.

Another challenge is the lack of qualified teachers. Despite efforts to attract and retain teachers, we still face a shortage of qualified educators.

To address these challenges, I propose the following solutions:

1. Increase the budget for education to ensure that our schools have the resources they need.
2. Implement a teacher training program to attract and retain qualified educators.
3. Develop a comprehensive curriculum that is relevant to the needs of our students.
4. Establish partnerships with universities to provide internships and other opportunities for our students.

I believe that these solutions will help to improve the quality of education in our country.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter. I look forward to hearing your thoughts on these recommendations.

Sincerely,

[Your Name]
DET 'given discount' from son of senior official

Staff Reporter

Mr Strijdom is the son of Mr Jap Strijdom, the DET deputy director-general. The DET found after it had ordered the posters that its budget would be exceeded. Mr Strijdom said he had no objection to giving the discount.

On another occasion he had granted the same discount to the DET for similar posters produced in black languages without being asked, he said.

In replying to a question from inquiring advocate Mr J A Niehaus, Mr Strijdom said he had changed the date on an invoice because Mr Vermaak had told him the date on the invoice should correspond with the delivery date.

Mr Niehaus said he assumed the DET never asked for quotations from Mr Strijdom. He also assumed certain documents had been “pushed in” when the department had to provide documentation for the inquiry.

The commission also heard that Mr Strijdom had been paid R609 a day in 1986 for “photographic services” rendered to the DET for a planned DET publication, “Review”.

The publication had not materialised, the commission heard.

Mr Strijdom said he was paid in part for four days’ work because at the time he had been in financial difficulties. The invoice Mr Strijdom had submitted to the DET was not dated or signed. Mr Niehaus said, Mr Strijdom said he needed the money urgently and he could not remember why he had not dated and signed the invoice.

It was possible that somebody had typed the invoice in the DET offices in Pretoria and because he was in a hurry he did not sign it, he said.
JOHANNESBURG. — The Witwatersrand Attorney-General's office is preparing an extradition order for insolvent chemical magnate Mr Oliver Hill, currently in Britain, to face charges of foreign exchange contraventions and fraud totalling R170 million.

Witwatersrand police said Mr Hill, 50, was wanted by the Commercial Branch. A warrant for his arrest was issued on Wednesday in the Johannesburg magistrate's court.

Mr Hill, formerly of Torwood Avenue, Forest Town in Parktown, left South Africa in December 1987.

Police said Commercial Branch detectives, assisted by the Reserve Bank, were investigating charges of fraud, alternatively forgery and uttering, and a second set of charges relating to foreign exchange control contraventions.

The forex allegations were described as the "single biggest" case of its kind yet exposed.

Police said the forex irregularities stemmed from the sale of forged Eskom stock certificates to foreign companies and individuals. They said monies were obtained through other fraudulent transactions.

The Eskom stock certificate scam — uncovered in 1987 — was reported to police by a stockbroker who noticed an Eskom stock certificate bearing the same serial number as another certificate with a different rand denomination.

It is believed that foreign companies and individuals bought the forged Eskom stock with the cheaper rand. The certificates had apparently been altered to appear as if they were owned by an SA resident, ensuring that when they were sold the proceeds would be in commercial rands.
DET got

By MARCUS BOSCH

THE Department of Edu-

cation has decided to

cut the budget for the

education department

by 20%. The decision

was made because of

the financial crisis in

the country.

"We have to make

hard choices," said

Minister of Edu-

cation Dr. Saki

Dlamini. "We can't

afford to waste money,

especially on areas

like administration.

We will focus on

improving the quality

of education in the

classroom."
Nicro to hold 'street law' courses for schoolchildren

By CLIVE SAWYER
Tygerberg Bureau
THE National Institute for Crime Prevention and the rehabilitation of offenders (Nicro) in the Tygerberg is to present 'street law' courses for schoolchildren next month.

The courses will be presented at schools in Elsies River and permission is being sought from the Director of Education to present the programme at white schools.

Nicro spokesman Miss Paulie Roux said: "We need this permission so that teachers, as trained volunteers, can present the course themselves."

If Nicro did not get permission from the director, courses would be presented after hours and during school holidays.

The "street law" concept which comes from the US, is designed to teach ordinary people how certain areas of law affect them.

The 10-week course covers the origin of law, how courts work, what to do if one cannot afford a lawyer, consumer and credit laws, family law, the small claims court and the law affecting welfare, housing and employment.

Tuition was by means of workshops.

Books on street law were available from the University of Natal but were not much use without tuition.

Courses for children were designed not only to teach them about the law but to develop cognitive skills as well.

DRUGS

There was a high school drop-out rate in certain parts of the northern areas.

"Drug abuse is also a major problem in the northern areas, just as badly as in the southern suburbs."

"While Nicro dealt with the rehabilitation of offenders, statistics had shown 43 percent of people in prison in South Africa had been in a reformatory."

There were 30 gangs in Elsies River and they were a major influence in the community.

"Nicro's aim is to help cut the youth crime rate in the northern areas."

Nicro also offered community service programmes and lectures on dealing with sexual abuse.

"Our problem is that we still have a low profile in the northern areas."

More information is available from Miss Roux. ☏ 890 3565.

Ex-Bok golfer jailed

DURBAN. — Ex-Springbok golfer Rodney John Mullen, 54, has been found guilty of the theft of R92 500 and jailed for five years.

Mullen said that during 1987 and 1988, as sole member of Fourway Equity and Finance closed corporation, money entrusted to him for investment on the JSE was utilised for his own use.
The CHAIRMAN OF THE HOUSE: Order! The hon member for Greytown will withdraw from the Chamber. [Interjections.] The hon member deliberately said the hon the Minister was telling lies. He may not say it, particularly not after I had observed that he should make fewer interjections. The hon member will withdraw from the Chamber.

Mr D J N MALCOMES: Mr Chairman, on a point of order: It is customary in this House, as you are well aware, to call upon an hon member to withdraw what he has said before summarily dismissing him. May I suggest or may I ask you kindly to ask the hon member whether he is prepared to withdraw or not before summarily dismissing him from this House?

The CHAIRMAN OF THE HOUSE: Order! The hon member must realize that I am charged with the interpretation of the rules and regulations and decorum in this House. The hon member for Greytown was continually making interjections and immediately after I had called upon him to stop doing so he interjected that the hon the Minister was telling lies. I think that is going to explain the fact that the hon member put the interpellation, I will ask him to withdraw that remark.

Mr P C CRONJE: Mr Chairman, I withdraw it.

The MINISTER: Mr Chairman, I hope I can be given a little more time, otherwise I am not going to complete the match. [Interjections.]

The CHAIRMAN OF THE HOUSE: The hon Minister will receive injury time.

The MINISTER: I just want to tell the hon member for Pinetown that he knows why we cannot succeed in arranging these people before the courts. It is because there is so much intimidation that people do not want to come forward as witnesses. Now the hon member wants us to appoint a commission of inquiry to find witnesses. They will not testify. Intimidation plays a role before a commission and it plays a role before the courts.

That is why we say let us stabilise the situation as we are now doing and then I ask UDF and Cosatu and the hon member for Greytown to stay out of it... [Interjections] because the UDF is the public arm of the ANC... [Interjections] The ANC stands for violence. They are not prepared to renounce violence. That is why violence is continuing; they do not want peace. After all, we have a great deal of evidence of this.

The MINISTER OF NATIONAL HEALTH AND POPULATION DEVELOPMENT:

(1) No, (a) and (b) fall away;
(2) falls away;
(3) no.

Dr W J SNYMAN: Mr Chairman, arising out of the reply of the hon the Minister, the fact that the price of the missing medicine was paid by the doctor concerned was probably the reason for no charge being laid with the Police. Does the Minister agree, however, that the disappearance of the medicine which has been admitted, is a serious ethical offence? Secondy, the hospital board concerned requested an investigaton into the management of medicine in that particular hospital. I am asking the Minister if he knows anything about that.

The MINISTER: Mr Chairman, the facts at my disposal, furnished to me by the Cape Provincial Administration, are the following. Firstly, the Stella Hospital is privately subsidised. Secondly, it does not have a hospital board, but is managed by a management company. Thirdly, the standards and the tariffs fall under the Provincial Administration, but nothing else. Fourthly, according to facts at my disposal, a doctor who worked in the hospital bought medicine amounting to R470 from the hospital.

SADF/SWA Territorial Forces: full/partial pay

Mr J VAN ECK asked the Minister of Defence:

Whether any members of the South African Defence Force and the South West African Territorial Forces who belong to units that (a) have been demobilised since 1 January 1989 and (b) are still to be demobilised are still to be demobilised are still to be demobilised.

The DEPUTY MINISTER OF DEFENCE:

Although elements of the South West African Territorial Forces were demobilised in accordance with the settlement plan, the infiltration by heavily armed So-Ape forces necessitated certain re-mobilisation. Negotiations are at present being conducted to re-imstate the settlement plan as it was on 31 March 1989. It is for this reason that I can at present not reply to the hon member's questions. (a) and (b) fall away.

Skin-lighteners: representations regarding potential danger

Mr J VAN ECK asked the Minister of National Health and Population Development:

(1) Whether he and/or his Department has received any representations with regard to the potential danger of the use of so-called skin-lighteners; if so, what is the nature of these representations;
(2) whether he is considering taking any steps with regard to the distribution of these products; if so, what steps; if not, why not?

The MINISTER OF NATIONAL HEALTH AND POPULATION DEVELOPMENT:

(1) Yes, the banning of skin-lighteners was requested;
(2) yes, I have already banned the sale and distribution of skin-lighteners with effect from 1 January 1991.

Civil case on hormonal herbicides

Mr M BURROWS asked the Minister of Agriculture:

(1) Whether, with reference to the now withdrawn civil case on hormonal herbicides which was before the Natal Supreme Court, his Department supplied any aid and/or information to either of the parties then involved; if so, to which party, (b) what information and (c) why;
(2) whether he and/or his Department has at any time considered or discussed with any parties the question of compensation for damage caused by the use of hormonal herbicides; if so, what was considered or discussed?

The DEPUTY MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE:

(1) Yes, (a), (b) and (c) The relevant scientific information as well as the results and findings of the advisory committee on the use of hormone herbicides were made available to both parties in order.
DET official’s son quizzed on posters

By DAVID YUTAK
Staff Reporter

THE son of a senior Department of Education and Training (DET) official has been asked why he had a number of ostensibly different companies performing essentially the same work.

The Van den Heever Commission into the possible irregular spending of State funds by DET officials was told yesterday that this work involved the publishing, printing and distribution of religious posters and other so-called “sports equipment” for school camps.

The commission, which has moved to Cape Town from Pretoria, suggested to Mr. Thinus Strydom that the use of several companies might suggest camouflage was being used.

He was asked whether he was aware of why questions were being asked about all the order documents and invoices bearing different names and different addresses while his name appeared nowhere on any of them. Mr. Strydom replied that he had absolutely nothing to hide from anyone.

He told the commission how he had distributed about R500 worth of books for certain countrywide “school camps” to help them establish a “kind of library” for their reading periods.

Florence Nightingale

Asked who had decided what material was suitable for the children, he said he and the publisher had decided what books to send after Mr. Leon Schonken, a former acting deputy director of the DET (youth activities), had asked for books on people such as Florence Nightingale and Emily Hobhouse.

In reply to the commission’s question as to why Mr. Schonken would use him as middleman instead of going direct to the publisher, Mr. Strydom said that he hadn’t questioned this arrangement.

He was also asked why it was that he had not procured some written proof that delivery had been made to the department and what he would have done had the department denied having received delivery. Mr. Strydom said he had a good understanding with the department and that it had never actually questioned delivery having taken place, although he realised now that this was incorrect practice.

Asked why he had thought it necessary to create a new firm called Positive Communications when there were already a number of others such as Forma Studios and Back To The Bible doing the same work, and what possible function the new concern could have fulfilled, he said the intention was to design more posters in addition to the Bible posters.

He did not want to “put all my eggs in one basket” and that if students should have decided that because they didn’t like one particular poster they would boycott the company that was responsible for its distribution, the boycott would not affect the others.
Present way is burden on taxpayers

Explore new forms of sentencing – judge

By Sue Olswang

The South African courts should explore alternative forms of sentencing, Mr Justice J Trengove, national president of Nico, said this week.

This was so because the present system of imprisonment, which did not always effectively rehabilitate offenders, was an “oppressive burden” on taxpayers.

He was addressing an “alternative sentencing” workshop of Nico (South African National Institute for Crime Prevention and Rehabilitation of Offenders) in Johannesburg.

“There are approximately 105 000 offenders in South African prisons on any one day, with each prisoner costing taxpayers in excess of R10 a day,” Mr Justice Trengove said.

“Many of these offenders are serving short sentences, usually about six months, but experience has shown that a six-month sentence usually has little effect. It is seldom an adequate deterrent, and it severely reduces the chance of rehabilitation.”

Mr Justice Trengove said the South African courts are keen to explore alternative forms of sentencing which could prove to be more adequate and more cost-effective.

“Imprisonment by itself is not a satisfactory form of punishment in the long run because it doesn’t always help to effectively rehabilitate the offender.”

According to the judge, there were 191 000 convictions in the South African magistrate’s and regional courts from October 1986 to December 1988. He said only 30 000 of these offenders were granted totally or partially suspended sentences.

Community service

Of these only 2 500 came with “positive conditions” – such as community service orders or compensation to their victims.

“Only 54 of the 2 500 offenders were granted community service orders, and I believe there is still a lot of scope for our courts to investigate alternative forms of sentencing,” Mr Justice Trengove said.

A community service order (CSO), says Nico, is a form of sentence imposed on certain offenders by the courts as a condition of a postponed or suspended sentence. Provision is made for this in terms of Section 297 (1) of the Criminal Procedure Act No. 51 of 1977.

Nico are currently in the process of effectively implementing and monitoring the CSO system in South Africa.

Their concern is with the overcrowding of prisons and the humanitarian principle that, in special circumstances, certain offenders can be more effectively rehabilitated without the trauma of prison.

One of the benefits of CSO is that the offender remains in society and does not have to face the problem of reintegration. The offender is also able to maintain his employment, thus minimising the cost to taxpayers, and overcrowding in prisons is reduced.

In addition, the offender can make reparation to society for the harm done by rendering unpaid service to organisations in need of voluntary help.

Some of the objectives of CSO are to provide a positive form of punishment which will be beneficial to both the community and the offender, and to provide an alternative to imprisonment while maintaining the confidence and credibility of the courts and the public.

Community services is an alternative sentencing option to imprisonment for all race groups, but it is not suitable for every offender.

Of those who are suitable, according to Nico, are people who are over 15 and who are willing to undertake community service and be motivated to assist the community and thereby provide reparation.

The offender must also indicate some evidence of stability, such as a settled home address and/or permanent employment. In addition, the offender might show evidence of social under-achievement.

Of those who are not suitable for community services are those who suffer from alcoholism or who have been charged with a sexual or excessively violent crime.

Also not suitable are those offenders who display severe addiction to drugs and/or alcohol. Offenders who display an inability to assume responsibility, or who have no time to undertake community services are also not suitable.

None. Winter vacation was advanced.

Vukukhanye Higher Primary School usable classrooms

410. Mr K M ANDREW asked the Minister of Education and Development Aid:

(1) Whether all classrooms at Vukukhanye Higher Primary School, Guguletu, are usable in wet weather; if so, since when; if not, (a) how many classrooms (i) can and (ii) cannot be used when it is raining, (b) why certain classrooms not be used and (c) since when has this been the case;

(2) whether in any classrooms ceilings are (a) missing and (b) severely damaged; if so, in how many classrooms;

(3) whether there are any broken window panes at this school; if so, how many;

(4) whether any representations have been received by his Department in respect of repairing the (a) roof, (b) ceilings and (c) window panes of this school; if so, (i) from whom, (ii) when and (iii) what was (a) the purpose of and (b) his Department’s response to these representations;

(5) whether there are any plans to repair the (a) roof, (b) ceilings and (c) window panes in question; if not, why not; if so, (i) what plans, (ii) when will they be implemented and (iii) what will be the cost involved?

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT AID:

1) No.

(a) (i) 8

(ii) 6

(b) Due to broken window panes

(c) Since 1987.

(2) Yes (a) 8

(b) 8

(3) Yes: 240

(4) (a), (b) and (c) Yes

(i) The Principal

(ii) Repeated requests from 1986 to date.

(iii) (a) Repair of fire damage and window panes.

(bb) The repair of fire damage has been approved in principle, but could not yet be carried out, at a stage due to the unrest, and thereafter due to the lack of funds. The repair of window panes is normally the responsibility of the school. The expenses for such services are met from school funds.

(5) (a), (b) and (c) Yes

(i) The repair of the damaged classrooms, roof, ceilings and window panes.

(ii) The repair of the window panes. During 1989 the other repairs: During 1990, subject to the availability of funds.

(iii) Approximately R400 000.

Crude-oil: landed cost

427. Mr R R HULLEY asked the Minister of Economic Affairs and Technology:

In respect of the latest specified date for which figures are available, (a) what was the landed cost in South Africa of crude oil in United States dollars per barrel, (b) what, in respect of 93-octane petrol, was this expressed in cents per litre at the pump and (c) what elements comprised the marketing margin in the latest petrol price composition?

The MINISTER OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS AND TECHNOLOGY:

(a) US Dollar 16.29 during April 1989.

(b) The abovementioned cost is not directly taken into account in the South African price for 93 Octane petrol. The average landed cost of 93 Octane petrol for 4 refineries—three in Singapore and one in Bahrain — is being used as basis to determine the South African price. The landed cost currently reflected in the price of 93 Octane is 40.142 c/l. The current under-recovery experiences is accommodated in the cumulative over and under-recovery account.

(c) The marketing margins for the oil companies (5.553 c/l) and the retailers (8.7 c/l) consist of all those costs normally incurred to distribute and market petrol and both margins are subject to price control.

Crude-oil: rand cost

428. Mr R R HULLEY asked the Minister of Economic Affairs and Technology:

(1) What was the average annual landed cost per barrel of crude oil in 1987;

(2) what was the (a) average quarterly landed rand cost per barrel of such oil in 1988 and (b) landed rand cost per barrel of oil as at the latest specified date for which information is available?

The MINISTER OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS AND TECHNOLOGY:

(1) R38,75 landed cost

(2) (a) 1st Quarter of 1988 R35.52

2nd Quarter of 1988 R36.68

3rd Quarter of 1988 R37.77

4th Quarter of 1988 R31.42

(b) R41.46 landed cost during April 1989.

Oil pollution

429. Mr J L LORIMER asked the Minister of Environment Affairs:

(1) How many cases of pollution of the sea by oil occurred in 1988;

(2) (a) what was the cost of combating such pollution in that year and (b) what amount was recovered from the owners of the vessels concerned?

The MINISTER OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS AND TECHNOLOGY:

(a) 138

(b) R3 583 million

(b) R49 614

Sales tax: irregularities

435. Mr H H SCHWARZ asked the Minister of Finance:

(a) How many cases of irregularities in respect of sales tax were discovered in 1988 and (b) what is the amount of tax involved?

The MINISTER OF FINANCE:

(a) 12 100

(b) Tax R159 698 501

Penalties 121 183 973

R280 882 474

Equalisation Fund: balance

460. Mr R R HULLEY asked the Minister of Economic Affairs and Technology:

What was the balance of the Equalisation Fund as at the latest specified date for which information is available?

The MINISTER OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS AND TECHNOLOGY:

R7 m

Balance before BLS Trust Funds and current liabilities 566,814

Less: BLS Trust funds 44,826

Current Liabilities 362,455

Balance on 30 April 1989 159,533

Central Energy Fund: balance

461. Mr R R HULLEY asked the Minister of Economic Affairs and Technology:

What was the balance in the Central Energy Fund as at 31 December 1988?

The MINISTER OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS AND TECHNOLOGY:

R3,275 million
Crime patrol on murder charges

By DOCTORSON TSHabalala

The senseless violence of township gangs took a new turn this week when 11 members of the Guguletu street patrol were released on bail after being arrested on charges of murder and arson.

The men have been ordered by police to stop the patrols they formed last year to fight crime in the townships.

This week members of the Khayelitsha Joint Action Committee, concerned that their own patrol might face state action, pledged to seek legal assistance for the Guguletu 11.

Township residents say they are deeply concerned about the spiralling violence of gang attacks.

Last weekend, police had to intervene when a pitched battle between rival gangs spilled over into the streets of Langa.

The violence encroached on the community again on Monday when an Ama-Desert gangster dashed into Langa's Isilimela Comprehensive school to shake off members of the Nsaras gang who were pursuing him.

Horrified pupils watched as their teachers confronted the gangsters and ordered them to leave the premises.

For the victims of gang attacks, the nightmare lives on long after their wounds have healed.

Last Christmas, Guguletu resident Griffiths Sekenyi, 40, was stabbed repeatedly in the back after he ran to the assistance of a neighbour who had been robbed by an Ama-Desert gangster.

The 16-year-old gangster then ran into Sekenyi's home, where he terrorised Sekenyi's wife and two-year-old granddaughter, before embarking on a spree of smashing windows and furniture.

Gang victim Mr Elliot "Papa" Windvol, 25, displays his wounds.

As a "parting shot", the gangster stabbed a lodger in one of the back yard shacks. Appalled neighbours reported later that the youth had licked the blade of his knife before fleeing.

Last September, 49-year-old Mrs Rose Dladla of Guguletu watched helplessly as a gangster attacked her husband in the street and fatally
‘No other quotes needed’ for DET

BY MARIUS BOSCH

IT HAD not been necessary for the Department of Education and Training (DET) to get other quotations for a R70 000 placard order because his quotation was the cheapest, the son of a DET official told the Van den Heever Commission yesterday.

The commission heard that Mr Thinus Strydom, son of DET deputy director-general Mr Jaap Strydom, had supplied 2310 sets of placards to the seven DET regions at a cost of R70 000. The placards were ordered by DET official Mr Richard Beech, he said.

“Who asked for the quotation?” advocate Mr J A Niehaus asked.

“If could have been Mr Beech or Mr Schutte, I think it was Mr Beech,” Mr Strydom replied.

The chairman of the commission, Mr Justice Leo van den Heever, told Mr Strydom to be more direct.

Sport courses

On Thursday a former DET sport official, Mr Patrick de Wet, said he had organised sport courses for the department for which he had a budget of R100 000 in 1987-88.

Mr De Wet, acting principal of a Guguletu high school, said he had heard from other DET officials that the department used the Ninja camp in the Eastern Transvaal for the courses. An account was submitted to the DET by Mr Strydom, he said.

He also used the “Trein terrein” near Pretoria where he had met Mr Strydom’s brother, Mr Malan Strydom, who managed the camp.

The hearing was adjourned to June 5.
'Room to expand concept'

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.
— The own affairs concept was not in the process of crumbling and there was room to expand it further, the chairman of the Ministers' Council, Mr F W de Klerk, said yesterday.

He said in debate on an interpellation put by Mr Frank le Roux (CP Brakpan) that the diversity of population groups that made up South Africa's population necessitated recognition of the existence of particular own and unique interests, along with common interests.

For this reason the NP believed that provision should be made for own power bases in which own control could be exercised over such interests.

Political Staff

THE Conservative Party yesterday accused the Minister of Education and Development Aid, Dr Gerrit Viljoen, of preventing disclosure of evidence of irregularities in his department two years before he took action.

The alleged evidence, a letter written to Dr Viljoen in 1985 by competitors to the controversial Learn Tech company, is now stored in the archives.

The CP spokesman on black education, Mr Schalk Pienaar said he had wanted to obtain a copy of the Barlow and Degen letter for purposes of debate in the House of Assembly yesterday but only after the debate was he formally informed that the letter was now stored in the archives.

Dr Viljoen referred the purchase of the IVIS system from Learn Tech — a company in which the son of the former director-general, Mr Braam Fourie, had a major interest — to the advocate-general in 1987 and it subsequently became one of the issues investigated by the Van den Heever Commission.

The CP believes he should have instituted an inquiry in 1985 after he had received the Barlow and Degen letter.

During the interpellation yesterday, Mr Pienaar said evidence about the alleged irregularities was being locked away in the archives.

Mr Pienaar said he wanted to establish when Dr Viljoen first knew of the irregularities.

Dr Viljoen said he had received the Barlow and Degen letter in 1985, but he had not investigated the matter at that stage because he viewed the letter as an attempt to persuade his department to purchase their products instead.

Mr Pienaar said the letter should be disclosed so that the public could decide whether Dr Viljoen had had sufficient evidence to order an investigation.

Dr Viljoen said the letter had been marked "strictly confidential" and he did not believe it would be right to make it public.

The letter had been considered by the Van den Heever Commission and it had not found that he had acted irregularly.

However, at a press conference afterwards, Mr Pienaar said the only inference that could be made from the commission's reference to the letter was that Dr Viljoen either knew, or should have known, of the problems in his department in 1985.
Survey: Level of crime has increased

However, research showed that an equal percentage of blacks (39%) questioned in the nation-wide survey believed that there had been an increase in crime in their neighbourhood. The analysed data revealed that a large proportion of blacks living in the metropolitan areas had a high level of fear of crime. "This is evident from the fact that 47% of the sample indicated that they felt very unsafe walking in their neighbourhood after dark."

Research showed that in spite of the fact that blacks perceived crime to be a serious problem, they had a fairly positive attitude towards the police. Whites had the most positive attitude towards the police and indicated to researchers that they felt the quality of the police's work was "very good" or "fairly good". Indians tended to have the least positive attitude towards the police, the report stated.

The research also revealed that the majority of white and Indian households were fairly well protected against crime in terms of outside lighting and burglar-proofing. Coloured households appeared to have the least protection against crime.

The report stated that present involvement in community crime prevention schemes was very limited, but that 49% of whites, 34% of coloureds and 22% of blacks were willing to participate in such schemes in the future.
Death of May Prins

MAY PRINS, a former worker at Grassroots community newsletter, died in a knife attack in Elsies River at the weekend.

The news of his death was greeted with shock by the many people in community organisations with whom he worked over the years.

Prins, 39, worked tirelessly to develop civic organisations in the Western Cape.

Born into poverty, he had no more than three years of education before he was forced to go out in search of work.

In the 1970s, he became deeply involved in the church and towards the middle of the decade, acted as a lay preacher.

He later joined the Elsies River Civic Association and a project called Operation Upgrade which tried to address the serious socio-political problems brought about by apartheid.

Prins then moved to Mitchell's Plain, where he joined the Rocklands Ratepayers Association.

In 1981, he was involved in the Electricity Petition Committee and also joined the Cape Area Housing Action Committee (Cahac).

In 1982, Prins was elected onto the Cahac steering committee, filling the position of vice-chairperson.

Tenants from Cape Town's townships were held spellbound by Prins's fiery speeches at Cahac rallies.

In 1983, he worked with thousands of others to ensure that the launching of the United Democratic Front was a major success.

Prins joined the Grassroots community newsletter as a distribution officer in 1985 and soon expanded the paper's distribution networks.

While Prins was a work horse, he was no compliant worker. He did not hesitate to question decisions or ideas he doubted or disagreed with.

And his debates were always marked by honesty and openness. — MANSOOR JAFFER

May Prins
Erring MPs may lose hefty handshakes

By BRUCE CAMERON
Political Staff

GOLDEN handshakes should be forfeited or reduced if members of parliament are found guilty of a criminal offence, dishonesty or abuse of position, a parliamentary committee has recommended.

However, the committee said members should not lose other pension rights.

But the committee has found that a further general investigation should be held into the handshakes and gratuities of MPs, saying it had not had the time to do so.

A further inquiry should also be held into recommendations of the Advocate-General, Mr. Justice J. van der Walt, that a code of conduct for MPs should be drawn up. It should also study the question of whether MPs should disclose their financial interests.

The parliamentary investigation was appointed after public anger when The Argus exposed the generous benefits being paid to MPs and ministers who had left parliament under a cloud.

Allegations

For example, Manpower Minister, Mr. Pietie du Plessis, who resigned to defend allegations against himself and his family of improper dealings, was given a golden handshake of at least R250,000 and a monthly pension of at least R150,000.

Mr. Amichand Raphansi, fired in the wake of the James Commission report and who is under investigation by the Attorney-General of Natal, received an immediate R70,000 gratuity and a monthly pension of R2,500 on top of his parliamentary salary.

If he does not return to parliament he will receive a further golden handshake of at least a further R150,000 and a monthly pension of at least R10,000 a month.

Mr. Peet du Pontes, who resigned as MP-for East London City and is being investigated by the Attorney-General follow-
CP wants DET letter released

Political Staff

The Conservative Party said yesterday that Minister of Education and Training, Dr. Gerrit Viljoen, and the Minister of National Education, Mr. F.W. de Klerk, would be involved in a “cover-up” if they did not now release documents about the purchase of a video system by Dr. Viljoen’s department.

The CP’s spokesman on black education, Mr. Schalk Pienaar, said that the documents were critically important to throw light on Dr. Viljoen’s role since 1985 in regard to the irregular purchase of the Ivis system by the Department of Education and Training.

The Ivis system was bought from a company called Learn Tech in which the son of a former DET director-general, Mr. Braam Faurie, had a substantial interest.

Mr. Pienaar said earlier this week that Dr. Viljoen either knew or should have known about the irregularities in his department because of a letter he had received from a competitive company, Barlow and Degem, in October 1985.

Dr. Viljoen, however, said he had believed the Barlow and Degem letter to be merely a complaint from an aggrieved competitor and he had not given any other significance to it.

But Mr. Pienaar believes the Barlow and Degem letter would clarify whether Dr. Viljoen knew about the irregularities two years before he took action and referred the matter to the advocate-general.

Kloof Street library setback

Municipal Reporter

Plans for a new Kloof Street library suffered a setback when the house the council planned to buy and convert was bought by someone else first, for more than R200,000.

However, the council set aside a similar amount yesterday to buy new premises for the library in the same area.
Crime Capital

City is the

Murder every four hours

8/15/28

By Anthony Johnson
Nat MP’s link in R1-m payment to company

Political Staff

THE Department of Manpower under former Minister Pietie du Plessis paid R1-million to a company partly owned by former National Party MP, Mr. Peet de Pontes, for a job creation project which was never completed.

Both politicians have since resigned from politics in a cloud of controversy unrelated to this deal.

Mr du Plessis left when it became known that the Advocate-General was probing property deals between his department and his son. Mr de Pontes was forced to resign as MP for East London City after the Harms Commission exposed his dealings with Mafia boss Vito Palazzolo.

The present acting Minister of Manpower, Mr Elid Louw, disclosed details of the 1985 deal in parliament in a written reply to questions by Mr Ken Andrew, Democratic Party MP for Gardens.

Mr Andrew said last night that “this allocation of a very large sum of money to a company in which a Nationalist MP would appear to have had an interest in at the time needs to be thoroughly investigated and the findings made public”.

Mr Louw said the Department of Manpower had paid R1-million to the Duncan Village Corporation in 1985 for a housing and temporary school project, the purpose of which was job creation, and it was authorised by the Committee for Job Creation.

It had not been completed because it “did not progress satisfactorily” and only 64 units were completed while 104 were not.

“Payment was finalised on an auditor’s certificate for work completed and final payment was only for work completed,” Mr. Louw said.